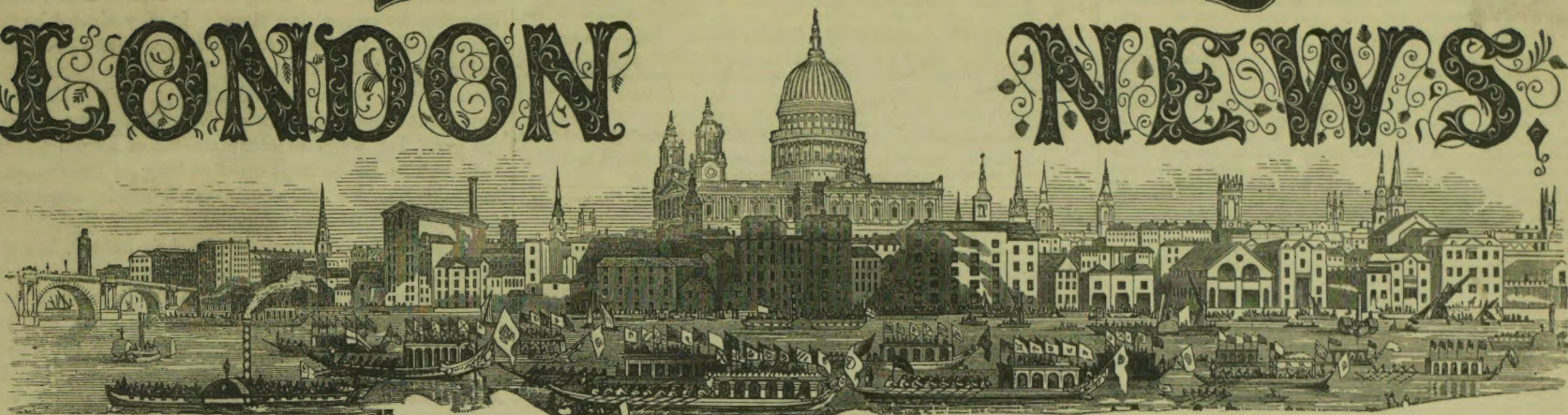


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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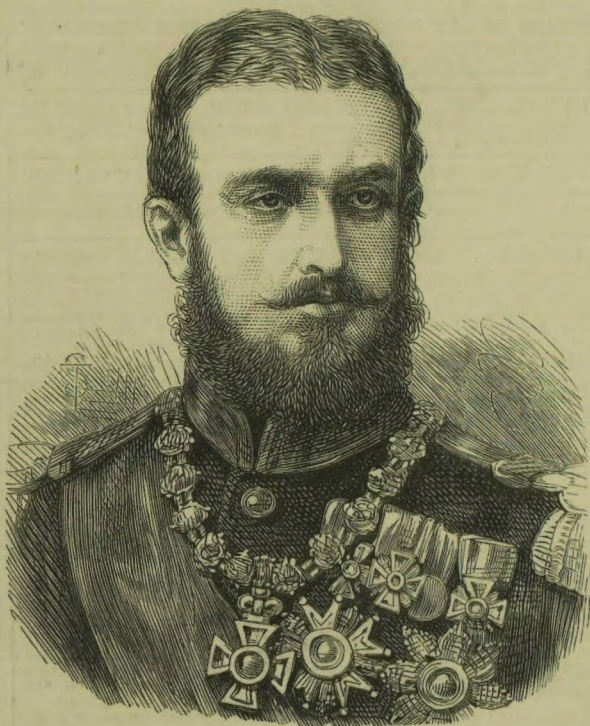
No. 1978.—VOL. LXX.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1877.

WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS } SIXPENCE.
By Post, 6½d.



GENERAL NEPOKOITSCHITZKY, CHIEF OF THE STAFF OF THE RUSSIAN ARMY ON THE DANUBE.



PRINCE CHARLES OF ROUMANIA.



LIEUTENANT T. DOUBASSOFF, WHO BLEW UP THE TURKISH MONITOR WITH A TORPEDO.



THE WAR: RUSSIAN INFANTRY DANCING AND SINGING AT THE PLOESTI RAILWAY STATION.
FROM A SKETCH BY ONE OF OUR SPECIAL ARTISTS.

BIRTHS.

On the 4th inst., at the Vicarage, Godalming, the wife of the Hon. and Rev. Alan Brodick, of a son.

On the 1st inst., in Hamilton-place, the Countess of Eldon, of a son.

On the 26th ult., at 2, Clifton-villas, Camden-square, the wife of Charles W. Hastings, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 9th ult., at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Sanawar, by the Rev. F. W. Roberts, assisted by the Rev. Allan Ramsay, Charles P. Bird, B.C.S., barrister-at-law, of Drybridge House, Hereford, to Agnes, third daughter of the Rev. John Cole, Principal of the Lawrence Military Asylum, Panjab.

On the 5th inst., at St. James's Church, Piccadilly, by the Rev. Francis Holland, of Quebec Chapel, assisted by the Rev. Louis A. Cockerell, of North Wield, Essex, cousin of the bridegroom, William Acland, third surviving son of Charles Robert Cockerell, Esq., R.A., to Sidney Ada, third daughter of the late Richard Davies, Esq., of "The Vigna," Madeira, and Jerez de la Fronteira, Spain.

On April 4, at St. Mary's Church, Waverley, Sydney, by the Rev. Stanley Mitchell, assisted by the Rev. J. C. Corlette, Henry R. C. Bird, eldest surviving son of Major Robert Wilberforce Bird, of Barton House, Warwickshire, to Esther Dudley, eldest daughter of E. Grant Ward, Esq., Registrar-General of New South Wales.

DEATHS.

On the 2nd inst., at Southwell, Notts, Emma, widow of Colonel Francis Slack, late 4th Dragoon Guards, K.H., in her 83rd year.

On the 1st inst., Laura Elizabeth, widow of the late William Kingdon, Esq., of King's Arms-yard and Clarendon-road, Kensington.

On the 4th inst., at his residence, Portland-square, Workington, Cumberland, Anthony Peat, M.R.C.S., in the 56th year of his age. R.I.P.

On the 2nd inst., at her residence, 23, Merriam-square North, Dublin, Cecilia, Lady Roche, widow of the late Sir David Roche, Bart., of Carass, in the county of Limerick.

* * * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, or Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 16.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10.

Second Sunday after Trinity.

St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., Rev. W. T. Bullock, Chaplain to Kensington Palace; 3.15 p.m., Bishop Cloughton; 7 p.m., Rev. W. S. Coles, Rector of Shepton Beauchamp.

Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m., Very Rev. the Dean, Dr. Stanley; 3 p.m., Rev. Canon Farrar; 7 p.m., Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Master of the Temple.

St. James's, noon, probably Rev. Canon Henry M. Birch.

Whitehall, 11 a.m. Rev. T. G. Bonney; 3 p.m., Rev. Canon Barry (Boyle Lecture).

Savoy, 11.30 a.m., Rev. Henry White, Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen; 7 p.m., Hon. Alfred Whitehead, Vicar of St. Peter's, Thanet.

Temple Church, 11 a.m., Rev. Dr. Vaughan, the Master; 3 p.m., Rev. Alfred Anger, the Reader.

St. Margaret's, Westminster, 11 a.m., Rev. Canon Farrar; 7 p.m., Rev. H. H. Montgomery.

MONDAY, JUNE 11.

St. Barnabas, Apostle and Martyr. New Moon, 2.32 p.m.

Caxton Exhibition opened. Philharmonic Society, 3 p.m.

National Social Science Association, 8 p.m. (Mr. J. B. Phear on Codification of Law in connection with the Administration of Justice in India).

London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, 8 p.m. (Mr. Hilton Price on Further Notes on Early Goldsmiths and Bankers to the Close of the Fourteenth Century, and Mr. John E. Price on Recent Researches and Discoveries).

Institute of British Architects, 8 p.m. (Mr. R. Anderson on the Ecclesiastical Architecture of Scotland).

Geographical Society, 8.30 p.m. (Bishop Crowther on Journeys up the Niger and Notes on the Neighbouring Countries).

Royal Thames Yacht Club: Channel-match from the Nore to Dover.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12.

Investiture of the Bishop of St. Albans, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, at St. Alban's Cathedral, 11.30 a.m.

Musical Union, matinee, 3.15 p.m.

West London Scientific Association, 8 p.m. (Mr. George French Angas on the Mollusca, &c.).

Photographic Society, 8 p.m. (Mr. Herbert Berkeley on Emulsions).

Anthropological Institute, 8 p.m. (Mr. W. J. Knowles on Discoveries in the Neighbourhood of Portewart; Mr. H. H. Howorth on the Germans of Caesar; Dr. John Rae on the Indians of New Caledonia).

Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association, Dog and Poultry, at Camborne (two days).

Ascot Races. Royal Cinque Port Yacht Club matches (three days).

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13.

Oxford Encenia: Commemoration of Founders.

Botanic Society, summer exhibition, 2 p.m. Literary Fund, 3 p.m.

Thames Conservancy Annual Meeting, 11 a.m.

Society for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts, 8 p.m.

Epidemiological Society, 8.30 p.m.

Church Association, Conference, St. James's Hall, 10.30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

London Sunday School Choir, annual festival (5000 voices), Crystal Palace.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14.

Church of Ireland Sustentation Fund, anniversary, Lambeth Palace, 2.30 p.m.

School for Indigent Blind, St. George's, Southwark, general court, 2 p.m.

Church Association, annual meeting, 2 p.m.

Zoological Gardens, 5 p.m. (Professor Flower on Whales and Porpoises).

Mathematical Society, 8 p.m. (Professor Crofton on Mean Values; papers by Mr. J. C. Malet and Professor Clifford).

Historical Society, 8 p.m. (Dr. R. Sandon Gutteridge on Ancient and Modern Political History; Dr. Charles Rogers, Historical Notices of the Priory of Crail).

Royal Society, 8.30 p.m. Society of Antiquaries, 8.30 p.m.

Ascot Races: Cup Day. Royal Toxophilite Society, second target.

FRIDAY, JUNE 15.

Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, 2 p.m.

Philological Society, 8 p.m. (Mr. J. H. Hensels on the Teutonic Words in the Lex Salica; Mr. Henry Nicol on Some Points in Early English Pronunciation).

Botanic Society, lecture, 4 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16.

Pope Pius IX. elected, 1846.

West London Scientific Association, Excursion to Cliefden, Great Western Station, 2.30 p.m.

Royal Albert Hall, grand morning concert, 3 p.m.

Thames Sailing Club, matches.

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE NEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOM.		WIND.		Miles.	In.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Maximum.	Minimum.	General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 a.m. next morning.		
May 30	29.615	52.2	41.9	70	5	61.8	44.9	SW. SSW.	269	0.000	
31	29.564	55.4	49.5	82	10	62.2	44.7	SSW. E. SE. SW.	262	.155	
June 1	29.494	53.6	48.5	84	10	57.8	51.8	S. SW.	657	.040	
2	29.573	54.4	49.7	85	9	57.8	52.3	S. SW.	536	.000	
3	29.710	63.1	49.9	64	—	77.8	45.9	S. SW.	308	.000	
4	29.491	64.2	56.4	77	5	80.0	52.0	SW. SE. S.	210	.000	
5	29.975	57.6	46.4	68	8	65.3	52.8	SW.	405	.000	

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten o'clock a.m.:

Barometer (in inches) corrected	29.593	29.531	29.379	29.339	29.774	29.733	29.916
Temperature of Air	55.6°	59.6°	55.3°	64.6°	66.4°	64.4°	60.6°
Temperature of Evaporation	49.2°	55.0°	52.2°	52.1°	57.9°	59.7°	53.8°
Direction of Wind	WSW.	SE.	SSW.	SSW.	S.	SSW.	SW.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 9.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
0 24 10 47	1 10 11 35	2 0 2 20	2 43 3 7	3 31 3 55	4 22 4 47	5 12 5 37

MR. and Mrs. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT.

A HAPPY BUNGALOW (first time); EDWIN AND ANGELINA; and "No. 24," by F. C. Burnand. EVERY EVENING, except Thursday and Saturday, at Eight: every Thursday and Saturday at Three. Admission, 1s., 2s.; Stalls, 3s. and 6s. ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham-place, Oxford-circus.

ALEXANDRA PALACE.—Open daily, wet or dry, equally delightful. Railway Station in the Palace. Trains every fifteen minutes from Aldgate, Farringdon-street, Moorgate-street, Shoreditch, Broad-street, King's-cross, Aldersgate-street, and all Stations of Metropolitan, Great Northern, North London, and Chatham and Dover Lines.

The celebrated Orchestra Band, under Mr. Weist Hill, plays on ordinary days two parts. First part, about one o'clock, classical; second, at about four, miscellaneous.

Mr. Frederic Archer plays twice every day on the magnificent organ in the central part classical and popular music, fugues, and old English airs.

The Military Band, under Mr. Hayes, plays in the Grove daily when warm and fine, and every day in the Palace.

Lulu every day: new and extraordinary Acrobats every day; Equestrian Feats, Clowning, &c., in Great Central Hall every day; Madame Felix (from Myers's Cirque) with her trained poodles every day.

Operas are played twice a week.

Dramatic Performances once a week.

Fireworks or illuminations once a week.

Admission One Shilling; or by the new 10s. 6d. Season Tickets, which admit every day for an entire year.

NOTE.—A Railway Time Table and Announcements for the Month will be sent by the Manager on receipt of stamped addressed envelope.

ALEXANDRA PALACE GREAT AMERICAN FETE

JUNE 19.

Full particulars will be announced in coming week's daily papers.

ALEXANDRA PALACE GREAT ROSE SHOW and

Combined FETE, SATURDAY, JUNE 30.

CRYSTAL PALACE PICTURE-GALLERY.—Open

all the year round for the Reception and Sale of Pictures by the British and Foreign Schools. For particulars, apply to Mr. C. W. WASS, Crystal Palace.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

THE EIGHTY-THIRD ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN, 5, Pall-Mall East, from Nine till Seven. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.

THE FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN, from Nine till Dusk. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.

H. F. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

ELIJAH WALTON.—EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR

DRAWINGS—EGYPT, NUBIA, and THE NILE: with a number of fine ALPINE and other Works—NOW OPEN, at BURLINGTON GALLERY, 191, Piccadilly. Ten to Six. Admission (including Catalogue), 1s.

DORE'S GREAT WORKS, "THE BRAZEN SERPENT,"

"CHRIST LEAVING THE PRÆTORIUM," and "CHRIST ENTERING THE TEMPLE," each 3ft. by 2ft.; with "Dream of Pilate's Wife," "Christian Martyrs," &c., at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street, W. Daily, 10 to 6. 1s.

OLYMPIC.—THE SCUTTLED SHIP. By CHARLES

BEADE. EVERY EVENING, at 7.30. Powerful Company and Effects. Box-office hours Eleven to Five. No booking fees.

QUEEN'S THEATRE. Long-acre.—RIVIERE'S

PROMENADE CONCERTS. Change of Programme Every Evening. Commence at Eight. The Andalusian Troubadours at 9.30 and 10.30. Admission, One Shilling.

MUSICAL UNION.—AUER and JAEHL expressly

engaged.—TUESDAY, JUNE 12, Fifth Matinee. Quartet. E minor, Mendelssohn; Quintet. E flat, Piano, &c., Schumann; Quartet in D, Tchaikowsky, Solo Pianoforte. ST. JAMES'S HALL. Quarter-past Three. Tickets, 7s. 6d. each, to be had of Lucas and Co. and Olivieri, Bond-street; and Austin, at the Hall. Visitors can pay at the Regent-street entrance.

Prof. ELLA, Director.

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—Conductor, Mr. W. G.

Cosins.—EIGHTH CONCERT, MONDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 11, at ST. JAMES'S HALL. Doors open at Two o'clock; to commence at Three o'clock precisely. EIGHTH CONCERT, MONDAY, JUNE 11, at ST. JAMES'S HALL. Doors open at Two o'clock; to commence at Three o'clock precisely. EIGHTH CONCERT, MONDAY, JUNE 11, at ST. JAMES'S HALL. Doors open at Two o'clock; to commence at Three o'clock precisely. EIGHTH CONCERT, MONDAY, JUNE 11, at ST. JAMES'S HALL. Doors open at Two o'clock; to commence at Three o'clock precisely.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY.

THE MOORE and BURGESS NEW

ENTERTAINMENT.

THE GREAT SUCCESS OF THE SEASON will be repeated EVERY NIGHT at EIGHT, MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY, at THREE and EIGHT. Fauteuils, 6s.; Sofa Stalls, 3s. and 2s. Gallery, 1s. No fees. Doors open at 2.30 for Day Performances, and at 7.15 for the Evening ditto. Places may be secured, without extra charge, at Austin's Office, St. James's Hall, any day from Nine till Six.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Signal Success of the MOORE

and BURGESS Easter Burlesque on THE MARVELLOUS GIRARDS, which will be repeated EVERY NIGHT at EIGHT; MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY, at THREE and EIGHT.

Video extract from "The Morning Post," April 3:—"In a burlesque performance entitled 'The Marvellous Gee-hads,' Messrs. T. Sully, Albert Moynihan, and Rene emulated the eccentric gymnastics of the well-known 'Gee-hads' with absolute accuracy in the minutest particulars of action and expression, doing everything that the clever originals do, and as nearly as possible in the very same style and manner."

MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS.

THE NEW OPERATIC MELANGE recently introduced HAS PROVED THE GREATEST SUCCESS EVER ACHIEVED BY THIS COMPANY. The whole of the music, which is strictly new and original, has been pronounced by the best of our musical critics to be worthy of Lecoq himself.

NIGHTLY RECEIVED WITH THE MOST ENTHUSIASTIC MANIFESTATIONS OF DELIGHT BY THE LARGE AND BRILLIANT AUDIENCES WHICH GROWED THE HALL. So great and so genuine is the success of this music that the directors are justified in announcing it for repetition at every performance until the end of August.

PLACES CAN BE BOOKED THREE WEEKS IN ADVANCE.

EGYPTIAN LARGE HALL (England's Home of Mystery),

is, of course, Messrs. MASKELYNE and COOKE'S Novel and Original ILLUSORY ENTERTAINMENT DAILY, at Three and Eight o'clock. Admission, 5s., 3s., 2s., and 1s. Box-Office open all day, where seats can be booked free of charge. Carriages should be ordered for Five and Ten o'clock.

W. MORRIS, Manager.

MR. MASKELYNE'S NEW AUTOMATON, ZOE, has

been successfully repaired, and is now included in the Programme. TO-DAY, at Three, TO-NIGHT, at Eight. Zoe is Mr. Maskelyne's Sole Invention and Construction, and is totally different in principle to Psycho. Zoe is detached from her seat and is taken amongst the audience for examination. Zoe sits upon a cushion placed upon a small stand, and to make the whole perfectly isolate from the stage, pieces of clear sheet glass are put under each foot of the pedestal. Zoe in this independent position goes through her performance of writing, sketching, and assisting Psycho in his calculations, registering the game of whist, &c. EVERY DAY, at Three. EVERY NIGHT, at Eight. The Greatest Sensation in London. Mr. Cooke floats to the ceiling and takes the Cabinet with him.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1877.

The departure of the Czar from St. Petersburg on Saturday last for the Seat of War opens another chapter in the history of the present Campaign. It corroborates by another striking fact not a few preceding events which serve to show the determination of the Russians to cross the Danube and to take temporary occupation of Bulgaria. That, indeed, is the professed object of the Russian War Office in massing the Russian troops along so considerable a length of the Roumanian bank of that river. The operations of War have hitherto been greatly interfered with by the state of the weather; and, although it is now given out that the roads are dry and practicable, and that the Roumanian railways, the traffic of which had been occasionally blocked by inundations and disorganised by excessive use, have been restored to their normal condition, or nearly so, the passage of the Danube by so multitudinous a host and by all the impediments which it will require is still delayed, and for some days to come will probably continue to be so, by the overflow of waters which raise the level of the river. For some time to come, therefore, no definite time can be fixed upon with certainty for the crossing of the Czar's troops. The undertaking would demand the utmost engineering skill and precaution, under existing natural conditions, even in time of peace. To effect it in the presence of a powerful

enemy occupying every post of advantage on the right side of the stream will be no holiday feat. The Russians are making every preparation to achieve this object without fail. They have vast resources, and a high capacity for organising them. It may almost be taken for granted that they will succeed, though not probably without serious loss at one or other of the points where the attempt will be made. The army will not then have got beyond the reach of extreme difficulty, or even of possible danger. Its ways of communication across the Danube will require to be kept open as long as the troops remain in Bulgaria, for Roumania must needs constitute their principal base of operations.

The invasion of Armenia, in Asia Minor, has, to some extent, been less exposed to natural difficulties. There the frontier line between the two Empires could be immediately crossed. Even there, however, geographical obstacles have somewhat compensated for the inadequate preparations of the Turks. Two divisions of the Russian Army have already so far advanced that a decisive battle in the neighbourhood of Erzeroum (the key, it is said, of Asiatic Turkey) may be fought within a few days. It is almost impossible to ascertain at the instant what reliance can be placed upon the War Telegrams that reach us from that quarter. But, guiding our conclusions by considerations which are almost independent of passing rumours, it would appear not at all improbable that within a month or so the upshot of the Campaign in Armenia may turn out to be favourable to the Arms of Russia.

There need, therefore, be no surprise, all these things being taken into consideration, that "peace rumours," as the daily journals call them, have sprung up and grown into some strength. There may be little in them—nothing, perhaps—but the passionate desire of Europe for a termination of the conflict, and an instinctive perception that the moment is approaching when both the belligerents may be disposed to accept proffered mediation. Turkey has by this time found out that she has cut herself off from the sympathy of the European Powers. She was slow enough to learn that lesson. She now knows that she stands alone. Nobody can doubt her gallantry; nobody, moreover, can doubt her obstinacy in fighting for a hopeless cause. But she knows, or may know full well, that her prospect of success, unless support should come to her aid from any other European State, is out of the question, and that the longer the war is prolonged the more stringent will be the terms exacted of her. In the face of possibilities, or even probabilities, she has assumed a tone of defiance. But now that the penalties of the misgovernment she has sanctioned are slowly but surely practically coming home to her, she may, it is thought, be glad to accept terms which, albeit they will humiliate her in the eyes of her Mohammedan subjects, will not altogether destroy the sovereignty of her rule. Nor is it unlikely that if the professed object of the Czar of Russia should be ceded to him by the Porte and adequate guarantees for the better government of its Christian populations, or we may fairly say of its Frontier Provinces, were given to him, he might be not unwilling to avoid the risks, the expense, and the bloodshed, of pushing to an extremity the progress of his arms. He is keenly watched by the Powers in support of whose united decisions he elected to bring the physical force of his Empire into the field. Russia, whom he represents, has nothing to gain by enlarging the scope of the War, or, at any rate, is little likely to gain anything save at an immense cost to herself. These are, probably, the considerations which have increased over all Europe an inclination to attach importance to the peace rumours of the hour. Estimating at, perhaps, an exaggerated rate the tendencies which make themselves felt on both sides, and looking at the movements of diplomatists, the meaning of which is as frequently as not supplied by imagination, one has no right to be astonished at the circumstantial form which these rumours have lately assumed. Perhaps they are rather premature than absolutely unfounded. If not true now, they may become true at no very distant future. But, after all, they can hardly be taken to indicate more than what may be anticipated in the case of certain contingencies. In the event of any decisive triumph of the Russian arms, it may be looked upon as highly probable that friendly mediation will be proposed—not improbably that of Germany—and the Eastern Question may be closed for another generation. But, on the other hand, the actualities of the campaign may run in a channel little expected by public opinion, and may possibly set aside freedom of action on the part of the ruling authorities both of Russia and the Porte. The latest diplomatic transaction between the British Foreign Office and the Embassy of Russia warns us how possible it is, almost unconsciously, to widen the area of the War; and it seems hopeless to foretell what may be the position which Austro-Hungary will eventually take in it. We must be on our guard, then, against placing anything like confident trust in the whispers of approaching peace which are now making themselves heard in every European capital. A month or two hence, peradventure, prospects may take a much more definite form.

At the annual Conference of Welsh Wesleyan Methodists at Carnarvon last week a resolution was unanimously adopted in favour of laymen being admitted to the deliberations of the Conference.

THE COURT.

The Queen gave a ball at Balmoral Castle on Wednesday week to the servants, tenantry, and gillies of the Royal Highland estates, in celebration of her birthday. Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice and Princes Albert Victor and George of Wales were present; also the Rev. Archibald and Mrs. Campbell, of Crathie. The next day the Queen and Princess Beatrice drove to Castleton and round by the Lion's Face.

Princes Albert Victor and George of Wales left Balmoral yesterday week on their return to Marlborough House.

On Saturday last the Queen and Princess Beatrice drove to the Glassalt Shiel. The Right Hon. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach dined with her Majesty.

The Queen and the Princess attended Divine service on Sunday at Crathie church. The Rev. Archibald Campbell officiated.

Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice visited the parish school of Crathie on Monday. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach left the castle.

The Queen and Princess Beatrice have made various excursions during the week.

The state concert announced for Wednesday evening at Buckingham Palace did not take place, in consequence of the death of the Queen of the Netherlands.

The following were the orders for the Court going into mourning for the late Queen on Thursday last—viz., the ladies to wear black dresses, white gloves, black or white shoes, feathers, and fans, pearls, diamonds, or plain gold or silver ornaments. The gentlemen to wear black Court dress, with black swords and buckles. The Court to change the mourning on Thursday, the 21st inst., and on Thursday, the 28th inst., to go out of mourning.

The Prince of Wales held a Levée on behalf of the Queen on Thursday at St. James's Palace.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

Her Majesty's birthday was officially celebrated on Saturday last in the usual loyal manner in the metropolis and at the naval and military stations. The church bells were rung and salutes fired; the annual guard-mounting parade took place at the Horse Guards, at which the Prince of Wales and other members of the Royal family were present. In the evening the illuminations were very general. At the Ministerial banquets the Duke of Cambridge and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar dined with the Secretary of State for War, Prince Christian with the Secretary of State for the Home Department, and the Duke of Teck with the Master of the Horse. Banquets were also given by the Premier, the Secretaries of State for Foreign Affairs, for the Colonies, and for India; the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Lord Chamberlain, the Treasurer and the Comptroller of her Majesty's Household, the Vice-Chamberlain, the Attorney-General, the Archbishop of York, the Duchess of Wellington, the Corps of Gentlemen at Arms, and by the Royal Naval Club of 1765. Receptions were given at the Foreign Office, Lady Constance Stanley presiding in the absence of the Countess of Derby, and by the Marchioness of Hertford.

A number of promotions in the Army and of appointments to the Order of the Bath and the Star of India, consequent upon the celebration of her Majesty's birthday, are announced.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince of Wales presided at the annual dinner of the 10th Royal Hussars, held at the Pall Mall, Regent-street, on Thursday week. His Royal Highness dined with Sir George and Lady Wombwell, at their residence in Portman-square, the next day. The Prince was present on Saturday last at the annual guard mounting parade at the Horse Guards, in honour of her Majesty's birthday; his Royal Highness's children witnessed the ceremony from the Horse Guards. The Duke of Cambridge and the Duchess of Teck lunched with the Prince at Marlborough House. In the evening his Royal Highness left town for Paris, to meet the Princess of Wales on her return from Athens. Her Royal Highness arrived at the Hôtel Bristol at the same evening in good health. On Monday the Prince, as President of the British Commission for the Paris Exhibition, received, at the Hôtel Bristol, Commissioner-General Krantz, and M. Berger, Director of Foreign Sections, with reference to details connected with various parts of the British section of the Exhibition. The Prince and Princess left Paris at 12.15 a.m. on Thursday, and travelled via Boulogne and Folkestone, to Charing-cross, whence they drove to Marlborough House.

An official notification has been made at the Admiralty that Prince Albert Victor and Prince George Frederick of Wales have received appointments as supernumerary naval cadets to H.M.S. Britannia.

Prince Leopold, the Provincial Grand Master, presided yesterday week at the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Oxfordshire Freemasons, which was held in the hall of the Apollo University Lodge. On Saturday last the Prince opened at Oxford a new children's ward at the Radcliffe Infirmary, which has been erected by the munificence of Mrs. Coombe, widow of Mr. Thomas Coombe, of the University Press. The proceedings took place at the University Museum. The new wards were named the "Victoria" and "Alexandra" Wards, after the Queen and the Princess of Wales. His Royal Highness afterwards performed the ceremony of presenting to the Rev. J. Slatter, the treasurer of the institution, a purse of one hundred guineas and a silver salver, in recognition of his long and gratuitous services. The Prince lunched with the Vice-Chancellor in New College Hall.

The Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz arrived at St. James's Palace on Wednesday from the Continent.

The United States Minister and Mrs. Pierrepont welcomed a number of distinguished visitors and leading American citizens at their residence in Cavendish-square on Tuesday evening, expressly invited to meet General Ulysses S. Grant (late President of the United States) and Mrs. Grant.

The Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland and the Duchess of Marlborough, the Marchioness of Blandford, and Lady Rosamond Spencer Churchill have arrived at the Pulteney Hotel from Dublin.

The Duke of Abercorn and Lady Georgiana Hamilton have left town for Biarritz, to join the Duchess.

The Duke and Duchess of Leinster and the Ladies Fitzgerald have arrived at the family residence on Carlton House-terrace from Carton, Maynooth.

The Duke and Duchess of Roxburghe have arrived at the Pulteney Hotel from Floors Castle.

The Duchess of Bedford and the Ladies Russell have arrived in town from Endsleigh, Tavistock.

FASHIONABLE MARRIAGES.

The marriage of Colonel the Hon. Lewis Payn Dawnay (Coldstream Guards), second son of the late and brother of the present Viscount Downe, with Miss Victoria Alexandrina Elizabeth Grey, third daughter of the late General the Hon. Charles Grey, was solemnised on Wednesday at St. James's Church, Piccadilly. The wedding presents, numbering upwards of 300, included:—From her Majesty, an Indian shawl,

and a locket, set with brilliants, having in the centre a medallion of the Queen in dull gold; from Princess Louise of Lorne, a pair of Sèvres vases; from the Duke of Connaught and Prince Leopold, a case of gilt plate, comprising tea-pot, cream-jug, and sugar-basin.

The marriage of Sir Henry Hawley, Bart., of Leybourne Grange, Kent, with Maria Selina, eldest daughter of Edward J. Morant Gale, Esq., was celebrated on Tuesday, at St. Nicholas Church, Brighton.

The marriage of Lord Kilmaine with Alice Emily, daughter of Colonel C. F. Shute, of Dorking, and niece of Major-General Shute, C.B., M.P., was celebrated on Wednesday at the parish church of Brighton.

FINE ARTS.

MISS ELIZABETH THOMPSON'S "INKERMAN."

When Nelson, in the outset of his fame, was smarting under what he deemed to be undeserved neglect in the Admiralty despatches of the time, he consoled himself by remarking that he would one day have a Gazette of his own. Substituting Exhibition for Gazette, Miss Elizabeth Thompson is actually in the enjoyment of that which the Hero of the Nile and Trafalgar only possessed in anticipation. She has a gallery "all to herself" at the rooms of the Fine Art Society in New Bond-street; and the innumerable admirers of her three noble pictures—the "Roll Call," "Quatre Bras," and "Balaclava"—have been recently overjoyed by the accession of a fourth work to the productions of the gifted artist's pencil. Every day fresh crowds, in which the military element is very pronounced indeed, gather round the picture of "Inkerman," which may be accepted as completing Miss Thompson's survey of the Crimean War. It would be well if she likewise extended to the dimensions of a trilogy those episodes of the Waterloo Campaign which she commenced so splendidly in the portrayal of the gallant Twenty-Eighth Regiment. "Hougoumont" and "La Belle Alliance," might form magnificent pendants to "Quatre Bras." In the picture now claiming our attention the spectator is supposed to be standing, on Nov. 5, 1854, on the inner slope of the hill called the Horn Ridge, over which come slowly toiling scattered groups of soldiers returning from the Field of Battle at Inkerman. Fighting has ceased all along the line, from the Sand Bag Battery to the Wall Way of the Careenage; and the wounded British are being carried or are slowly creeping towards the camp of the Second Division. We gaze upon a long struggling column of "fours," principally composed of privates of the Coldstream Guards and the Twentieth Regiment; while in the centre of the group are three Russian prisoners—one of them, apparently, a sailor from the Naval Brigade organised by the besieged in Sebastopol, who has an unmistakably Calmuck physiognomy. On the right two drummers and two privates carry a wounded British officer; and slightly in advance of this group rides a very youthful Staff officer, whose figure forms the nucleus round which the whole interest of the drama is concentrated. By his side a bugler is toiling wearily along, catching for support, in sheer faintness, with his unwounded hand at the stirrup leather of the mounted officer. On the brow of the hill are seen stretchers bearing more wounded; and in the rear a French ambulance is moving off, the wounded French soldiers raising themselves on their litters to cheer their British comrades as the paths diverge. In the extreme background, looming through the gathering fog, are the Heights of Inkerman, from which, early in the day, the Russian guns played on the artillery of our Second Division as it struggled up the ridge over which the procession of wounded are now passing. All this is pictorially narrated by Miss Thompson with wonderful skill and with infinite pathos. We believe that the lady's resolute standpoint is in "her resolution to paint things as they really are, or were, and not as they might be politically fancied to be;" and, taking "political" in the sense of "conventional," it must at once be granted that Miss Thompson has treated the Battle of Inkerman in a wholly unconventional spirit. Some very close observer must have told her that a victory is, in reality, as sorry a sight as a defeat; and so utterly wretched, dejected, and dispirited do the conquering heroes in this picture of "Inkerman" appear to be, that a spectator unversed in the history of the Crimean War might be excused for imagining for an instant that it was the British and not the Russian army that was so soundly beaten on the Fifth of November, 1854. This beautiful picture may perhaps lose slightly in immediate popularity through the excessive dolefulness in tone and expression by which it is pervaded. Still, the Truth is above all things precious; and if Miss Thompson has satisfied herself by studious and appreciative hearsay that the victors of Inkerman really looked as miserable as she has made them look in her pathetic composition, she cannot be blamed for sacrificing a little ephemeral prestige for the much more valuable guerdon of permanent acceptance and applause. Artistically considered, "Inkerman" presents many marked differences from the artist's former style of treatment. Miss Thompson's key of colour seems to have become entirely changed, and for the better. The landscape portions of her work have, again, manifestly been studied with a keen remembrance of Mr. Ruskin's bygone panegyric on her capacity as an interpreter of natural effects; while the free grouping and somewhat *vaporoso* handling of her figures present a significant contrast to the solid modelling and almost rigid literalness of the figures and faces in the "Roll Call" and "Quatre Bras." Of characteristic and emotional attitude and expression Miss Thompson approves herself to be in "Inkerman" as unsurpassed a mistress as ever.

MR. T. JONES BARKER'S "BALACLAVA."

According to a recent honourable speaker in the debate on the Women's Suffrage Bill, the existing epoch is one pre-eminently of "force, power, and strength." The fact, if such it be, is scarcely of a comforting nature to the friends of peace; still, in any case, it seems undeniable that wars and rumours of war are audible on every side; that the air is malodorous with the fumes of villainous saltpetre; and that certain moral rockings and heavings awaken unpleasant suspicions that "the old Dragon underground"—the Dragon of War—is "swindling the scaly horrors of his folded tail," and preparing to approve himself as devouring a dragon an ever. Looking at things, then, from the "force, power, and strength" point of view, it is not astonishing to find battle pictures on the largest scale becoming popular; and it is quite in the nature of things (as things are at present) that, while one section of the public patronises Miss Thompson's "Inkerman," another should flock to see Mr. T. Jones Barker's new painting representing the "Taking the Russian Guns at Balaclava," as exhibited at Mr. Borgen's Danish Galleries in New Bond-street. This large and powerfully executed work is conspicuous as presenting a graphic glorification of the military capacity of the late Earl of Cardigan—one of the best-abused noblemen, but likewise one of the most gallant cavalry officers of his generation. The renowned Colonel of the 11th Hussars and commandant of the Six Hundred at Balaclava is represented in the splendid

uniform of his regiment, and, mounted on a fiery charger, galloping down the Valley of Death at a pace which has been estimated at seventeen miles an hour. "Already he had come to within some two or three horses' lengths of the mouth of one of the guns—a gun believed to have been a twelve pounder—but the piece was discharged, and its torrents of flame seemed to gush in the direction of his chestnut's off fore-arm, the horse was so governed by the impetus he had gathered, and by the hand and heel of his rider as to be able to shy only a little at the blaze and the roar of the gun. But Lord Cardigan being presently enwrapped in the new column of smoke now all at once piled up around him, some imagined him slain. He had not been struck. In the next moment, and being still some two horses' length in advance of his squadrons, he attained to the long-sought battery and shot in between its guns."

Thus Mr. Kinglake, in his "History of the Crimean War;" and on this very eloquent text Mr. T. Jones Barker has composed a most stirring picture. Lord Cardigan, with uplifted sabre, is, of course, the central personage and the *point de mire* of the entire drama. For the rest, the artist shows us the First Line of the force which charged the Russian guns, composed of the 13th Light Dragoons and the 17th Lancers. In the second line are the 4th Dragoons and the 8th and 11th Hussars; while in the background loom the undulations of the "Fedioukine Hills." Painted in the fine old dashing style of Horace Vernet, lifelike in the attitude both of men and horses, and backed by a very nobly painted landscape, Mr. T. Jones Barker's "Balaclava" may be estimated not only as a masterly example of warlike art, but as a work eminently suitable to interpretation by the burin; and it is intended, we believe, to engrave the picture forthwith.

A notice of Mr. Frank Dillon's Japanese sketches is unavoidably deferred till next week.

A private view of the Byron Memorial Loan Collection, the chief features of which are models for the proposed Byron monument, took place at the Albert Hall on Wednesday. It is now open to the public. The work selected is by a sculptor whose pseudonym is "Richard Belt," and it depicts the poet sitting on a rock, musing on Nature and contemplating her grandeur. There were seventy-one entries in the competition.

The Turner drawings and vignettes of the Novar collection, so called from the name of the late Mr. Munro's seat in Scotland, more than realised the anticipations formed during the exhibition of them; and the sale, last Saturday, proved to be the most spirited and interesting one of the season. A total of £20,753 was realised.

The death of Mr. William Edward Frost, R.A., in his sixty-seventh year, is announced. His portrait was given in this Paper, Jan. 2, 1871, on the occasion of his being made a Royal Academician.

Baroness Burdett-Coutts has sent £500 to the National Society for the Fund in Aid of the Sick and Wounded in the War in the East.

The Channel Squadron has left Plymouth Sound on its annual cruise, which will only extend at present round the British and Irish coasts.

A thunderstorm of exceptional severity passed over the north and east of Scotland early on Tuesday morning, and serious damage by lightning and flood is reported.

Lord Edward Cavendish on Wednesday laid the cornerstone of a new institution in course of erection in Abbey Dale Valley, near Sheffield, by the Sheffield and Rotherham Licensed Victuallers' Association, for the accommodation of their poor and indigent members. The institution will consist of twelve houses and a board-room, at a cost of £12,000.

A public meeting in support of the claim of Wakefield to be the seat of the new bishopric was held at Barnsley on Tuesday. The Vicar of Wakefield contended that that borough was on many grounds the most desirable place for the proposed see, and drew attention to the fact that £23,000 had just been expended in restoring the parish church. A resolution in favour of Wakefield was passed.

The Ely Diocesan Conference held its first sitting on Tuesday, and opened with an address from the Bishop on the value of synodal action in the Church. A paper on the burials question, by Mr. Marten, M.P., was read, and after a considerable discussion, a resolution, moved by Archdeacon Chapman, objecting to any persons other than ministers of the Church of England officiating in churchyards, was carried by a large majority.

Under the title "Dust to Dust; Sanitary Modes of Burial" Mr. Samuel Phillips Day has issued a small work, in which he treats of the burial rites and mourning customs of various nations, discusses the chief objections to cremation, advocates Mr. Haden's wicker-coffin plan of burial, and has a few words to say, in conclusion, for and against certain cemeteries near London. The pamphlet is published by J. Hodges, King William-street, Strand.

The annual meeting of the National Society was held at the Sanctuary, Westminster, on Wednesday, under the presidency of the Archbishop of York. A most encouraging report was presented, and it was stated that at the present moment there are many more children attending the church schools than all the elementary schools of the country together. Both the numbers on the rolls and the voluntary subscriptions in support of the schools have increased since the passing of the Education Act.

The Archbishop of Canterbury yesterday week visited the General Assembly of the Established Church of Scotland, sitting in Edinburgh. He was present about two hours during the discussion on education, and the compensation payable to patrons in consequence of the recent abolition of patronage. On the Archbishop entering the throne gallery and taking his seat on the right of the Lord High Commissioner, the Moderator and members of the assembly rose. On leaving, the Archbishop had a short interview with the Moderator, and expressed the gratification he had felt at being present.

Yesterday week the annual meeting of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society was held at the City Terminus Hotel, under the presidency of Mr. Henry Pease, of Darlington. Mr. Edward Young, R.N., in moving the adoption of the report, said that he was glad to state that the mission had been planted on the shores of Lake Nyassa, and he had had considerable experience of the slave trade. The traffic, he regretted to say, was still carried out in Arab and Portuguese possessions in all its enormities, and as many as 20,000 slaves, as Livingston stated, yearly reached the coast that came from the Lake Nyassa district. He fully believed that the mission sent out by the Free Church of Scotland to Nyassa had done a great deal to put down slavery. Livingstonia had become quite a city of refuge for the slaves, who were coming into the district by thousands, many of them starving and without a vestige of clothing. The report was adopted.



THE WAR: ARRIVAL OF MONEY AT THE KONAK (GOVERNMENT HOUSE), RUSTCHUK, FOR PAYING THE TROOPS.
FROM A SKETCH BY ONE OF OUR SPECIAL ARTISTS.



ABOVE RUSTCHUK, ON THE DANUBE.
FROM A SKETCH BY ONE OF OUR SPECIAL ARTISTS.



THE WAR: SKETCHES AT RUSTCHUK.
BY ONE OF OUR SPECIAL ARTISTS.

THE WAR.

Since the date of our last week's news from the Danube and from Armenia there has been little to report either of the Russian or of the Turkish military operations. The Emperor Alexander, having left his palace near St. Petersburg on Saturday, arrived on Wednesday at Ploesti, near Bucharest, the headquarters of his brother, the Grand Duke Nicholas, Commander-in-Chief of the army in Roumania. It is believed that he will at first be occupied with diplomatic negotiations, on which the destinies of Roumania and Serbia will, perhaps, depend; and it may be found expedient for Russia to come to an understanding with Austria before crossing the Danube. There is a rumour to the effect that Serbia has concluded with Russia, through the instrumentality of General Fadaeff, a convention by which the Russian army will be permitted to cross the Danube between Turnu-Severin and Gladova, in case they should not succeed in forcing a passage elsewhere.

Journals inspired by the Vienna Government say that the promise made by Russia to England and Austro-Hungary not to interfere with the interests of these two countries localises the war for a time, but that for the future England and Austro-Hungary have preserved full liberty of action.

We learn from Rustchuk that the waters of the Danube have fallen; and a belief has been gaining ground for the last three days that the Russians will very shortly endeavour to cross the river at three different points, making Rustchuk the object of their chief attack. All women have left the town, and the foreign Consuls, with the exception of the English Consul, will leave in a few days. The Russians are much stronger in cavalry than the Turks. There is just now a great movement of Turkish troops from the Turkish camp at Rustchuk to the bank of the Danube. After keeping up a musketry fire for some time with the Cossacks on the other side of the river, part of the Turkish troops withdrew in a southerly direction. The Turkish bombardment of Kalafat was stopped on Tuesday by a hurricane of wind and rain.

The renewal of the Turkish attack on Montenegro has met with something like defeat at more than one point. The principal column, under Suleiman Pasha, advanced from Gatchko, to the north of Montenegro, with a view to relieve Nischitch, while at the same time a column under Ali Sahib entered the Principality on the southern side at Spush. The latter was repulsed by the Montenegrin chief Petrovitch. The former gained a victory on Monday last, but is said to have fought and lost a battle on Tuesday. It is impossible as yet to verify the conflicting statements. The besieged Turkish fortress of Nischitch, in Herzegovina, is closely pressed by the Montenegrins, and must surrender unless relieved in a few days.

In Armenia the Russians have made a general advance, and have succeeded in investing Kars and cutting the Turkish telegraphic communication. Several engagements are reported, in which the Russians got the advantage; and one night attack by them upon a bivouac of Circassian cavalry, though hotly fought, was a thorough defeat for the latter, who were almost destroyed to a man. The latest news from Asia Minor is that the Turkish headquarters are at Koprikoy, where nine battalions and a battery of artillery are stationed. The Turkish right wing, consisting of twenty battalions and two batteries, is at Delibaba, and the left at Gurdji and Bogaze, about six hours' march from Erzeroum. The left wing is composed of sixteen battalions and a battery of artillery. The Russian left wing has suspended its forward march. The bulk of the right wing is at Olti, and its advanced guard has arrived before Nariman. A column detached from the centre of the Russian army before Kars has taken up a position on the Soghauli Dagh. A Russian column is also operating in the direction of Van. We still hear of Mukhtar Pasha falling back toward Erzeroum, his present position being at Hassan Kaleh, some twenty-five miles in front of the intrenched camp. Here he is secure against the turning of his flanks either from Olti or by way of Kara Kilissa, but it would still be possible for the Russians to move a force down the valley of the Tchouruk Su from Ardahan or Batoum to attack the left flank of the Turkish army. A report even comes from Erzeroum that Cossacks have already appeared at Ispir, in the Tchouruk Su valley, immediately to the north of the intrenched camp and a little to the rear of the position at Hassan Kaleh. Should this news prove true, and should these irregulars be the advanced guard of a substantial force, Mukhtar Pasha will necessarily have to fall back upon the capital itself for fear of being attacked in front and rear at the same time. We hesitate, however, to accept the news until fully corroborated.

M. de Lesseps having submitted to the Earl of Derby a project for regulating the passage of ships-of-war through the Suez Canal, the Foreign Secretary has addressed a despatch to our Ambassador in Russia. In this Lord Derby states that her Majesty's Government are firmly determined not to allow the Canal to be made the scene of any combat or other warlike operation, and that any such step on the part of either belligerent would be incompatible with the maintenance by Great Britain of an attitude of passive neutrality. A similar warning has been addressed to the Governments of Turkey and of Egypt, as it appears that the Khedive of Egypt had asked for some Turkish ships-of-war to defend the entrances of the Suez Canal, while refusing to allow the passage of Russian ships-of-war. The Suez Canal Company held its annual meeting at Paris on Wednesday, and received from M. de Lesseps an account of his communications with the British Government. This was hailed by the meeting with the greatest satisfaction, as was also the assurance that the English Government would be happy to find itself in accord with the French Cabinet in everything concerning the Canal.

The Russian squadron lately on the coast of North America, consisting of the frigates Svetlana and Petropaulovski, commanded by Admiral Boutakoff, with the Grand Duke Alexis on board, arrived at Brest on Wednesday last.

The Oaklands, 955 tons, Captain W. Lawrance, chartered by Sir Arthur Blyth, K.C.M.G., Agent-General for South Australia, left Plymouth on the 1st inst. for Port Adelaide, with 338 emigrants, among whom were sixty-two single female domestic servants.

A telegram received at the Admiralty states that two of her Majesty's vessels have had an engagement off the coast of Peru with a rebel turret-ship, which had committed piratical acts against British subjects. She escaped after dark, but so damaged as to be obliged to surrender to a Peruvian squadron. There were no casualties on the English side.

Six hundred persons are reported to have lost their lives in the earthquake which destroyed the town of Iquique, and by the tidal wave which swept the Peruvian coast on May 10. Simultaneously with the earthquake at Iquique, Peru, a tidal wave struck the Sandwich Islands. All the houses in Waikiki within one hundred yards of the shore were destroyed. Five persons were drowned, and great damage was done at the harbour of Hilo, where the wharves and stores in the lower part of the town were swept away. An eruption of Kilanea volcano began simultaneously with this oceanic disturbance.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The Prince and Princess of Wales were received with enthusiasm during their brief stay in Paris.

The Duc de Broglie received on Monday morning the members of the Paris Tribunal of Commerce. He took occasion to say that the act of May 16 was, as Marshal MacMahon had already declared at Compiègne, solely intended to reassure Conservative interests and to guarantee internal stability. With regard to peace, the Government would spare no effort to secure it.

A circular has been sent to the prefects by M. Fourtou, the Minister of the Interior, with respect to the hawking and distribution of newspapers, books, and pamphlets. The Minister, "wishing to defend fundamental social principles against the flood of subversive literature," instructs the prefects to revise all the hawking licenses hitherto granted, and only to issue licenses to fit agents, who offer proper guarantees.

M. Bonnet-Duverdier, the President of the Paris Municipal Council, who recently paid an official visit to London, has been arrested on a charge of using insulting expressions in reference to Marshal MacMahon, and for inciting to civil war.

More press prosecutions are reported.

M. Gambetta has been presented with an address bearing a thousand signatures by the students of Paris thanking him for his efforts on behalf of the Republican cause, liberty of conscience, and free thought. In his reply M. Gambetta spoke eulogistically of M. Thiers as a statesman well fitted to again become a Constitutional President in the event of the resignation of Marshal MacMahon.

The charge of libel and defamation of character brought by the Comte de Lambert against the *Figaro*, the *Evénement*, and the *Marseillaise* was decided on Wednesday before the Tenth Chamber of the Police Correctionnelle. M. Gaston Vassay, the editor of the *Evénement*, was condemned to fifteen days' imprisonment. Each of the journals was condemned to a fine of 1000f., the *Figaro* and *Evénement* to pay 5000f. damages, and the *Marseillaise* 3000f.

During the transit of an express-train from Calais to Paris a robbery of scrip, valued at more than £40,000 was effected.

ITALY.

Sunday being the anniversary of the declaration of Italian liberty King Victor Emmanuel held a review of troops at Rome. His Majesty was accompanied by the Crown Prince Humbert, the Minister of War, Herr von Kendorff, the German Ambassador, the foreign military Attachés, and a brilliant staff. There was an enormous crowd of spectators. The King was enthusiastically cheered on his arrival and departure. The camp and the town were profusely decorated with flags.

After the review the King received the Ministers, senators, and deputies, and the members of the municipal and provincial councils. Replying to their addresses, his Majesty thanked them for their testimonies of affection, and said he should always be ready to defend the freedom and greatness of Italy.

A street demonstration in honour of the King was attempted on Sunday night, but the police interposed, and a procession which had set out for the Quirinal was compelled to turn back. In the Chamber of Deputies on Monday Baron Nicotera, the Minister of the Interior, explained that this course had been adopted because there was reason to believe that, although most of the persons in the procession were actuated by loyal motives, others were simply intent upon provoking a breach of the peace.

The Sugar Duties have been adopted in the Senate; and in the Chamber of Deputies the convention concluded by the Government with the Sardinian Railway Company has been agreed to.

The Pope received yesterday week a large number of pilgrims and other persons. Among the gifts presented to his Holiness was a magnificent cross set in diamonds, the offering of the Catholics of Calcutta, who also sent some richly-bound volumes containing the signatures of all the members of the Roman Church in that city. His Holiness expressed himself much gratified at their devotion to the Holy See. In receiving the congratulations of the Sacred College last Saturday the Pope referred in eulogistic terms to the devotion of the Cardinals to the Church in very difficult times. His Holiness afterwards received a number of deputations. Rome was divided into two camps on Sunday. While at the Quirinal King Victor Emmanuel was receiving addresses of congratulation on the thirtieth anniversary of the declaration of Italian independence, at the Vatican the Pope was welcoming the pilgrims who have come to celebrate his episcopal jubilee. He received on Sunday about 5000 pilgrims, mostly Italians. He also gave a special audience to Count Larisch, who was sent by the Emperor of Austria to congratulate his Holiness, and who brought numerous presents from the Imperial family. At the reception given on Wednesday to the Polish pilgrims, Cardinal Ledochowski read an address alluding to the solicitude ever evinced by the Pope in regard to Poland. In reply, the Pope said this pilgrimage was a source of great gratification to him on account of the difficulties which had had to be surmounted to accomplish it—difficulties caused by the persecution to which Catholics are at the present time subjected. The Pope has named Marshal MacMahon to the grand cross of the Order of Pius IX. His Holiness has received 20,000f. sent by the Count and Countess de Chambord. With great ceremony the Pope's episcopal jubilee has been celebrated in the Catholic churches in other countries.

A band of brigands was surrounded in Sicily a few days ago; and, as they resisted, Leone (the captain) and two of his followers were killed. The affair was alluded to in the Italian Parliament on Saturday in congratulatory terms.

BELGIUM.

The annual fêtes of Liège were celebrated last Sunday, and were attended by the Royal family. At a reception held by the King his Majesty told the delegates of the Corporation that the situation of Europe was grave; but expressed his firm conviction that Belgium would courageously surmount the difficulties of the industrial crisis and other difficulties, should they arise. The utmost enthusiasm prevailed.

HOLLAND.

Queen Sophie, the consort of William III., died on Sunday morning, at The Hague, in her fifty-ninth year. All the members of the Royal family were at the bedside when she breathed her last. Her Majesty's funeral is fixed for June 20.

GERMANY.

The Emperor William and the Crown Prince left Berlin on Tuesday for Liegnitz, in order to be present at the anniversary festival of the King's Own Regiment of Grenadiers. His Majesty's departure for Ems has been fixed for the 14th inst.

GREECE.

A Special Envoy has been sent by the King to pay his respects to the Czar.

The Ministry formed last week has given place to another including all the party leaders, as follows:—Admiral Kanaris, President and Minister of Marine; M. Koumoundouros, Minister of the Interior and of Public Instruction; M. Deligeorgis,

Minister of Foreign Affairs and of War; M. Zaimis, Minister of Justice; and M. Tricoupis, Minister of Finance. All are ex-Ministers, and the first five ex-Premiers. The step, which was demanded by the people and Chamber, shows that the Greeks are in earnest, and desire internal order and energetic military preparation, so that they may act effectually on any emergency. Greece has made a loan of 8,000,000 drachmas from the National Bank for the purchase of arms.

AMERICA.

The Philadelphia correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs the particulars of an extraordinary attempt to wreck and rob a railway train. Last Sunday night, on the St. Louis and San Francisco Railway, 156 miles west of the former place, a band of robbers unjointed the rails, replacing them in such a way that the approaching train would run down the embankment. The night was dark and the rain falling. An express-train approached about 8.30, and the driver, seeing obstructions, applied the brakes, but too late. The engine and baggage-car plunged down the embankment, a distance of forty feet. The driver, stoker, and one passenger were killed. The thieves fired their pistols into the train; and then, seeing that it was not sufficiently wrecked for their purpose, decamped.

On Monday afternoon a tornado partially destroyed Mount Carmel, a flourishing town of 3000 inhabitants on the Wabash river, South-Eastern Illinois. It struck the town on the southern quarter and passed north, destroying almost everything in its path. Three churches, two newspaper offices, two schools, the Court-house, and 120 buildings were demolished. The ruins caught fire, burning almost till midnight before the flames were extinguished. The *Times* correspondent at Philadelphia states that twenty-two persons were killed or burnt to death, and forty were injured, many fatally.

CANADA.

Mr. Davies has been appointed Provincial Secretary and Minister of Mines in British Columbia.

Lieutenant-Colonel Labranche has received a letter of thanks from the Horse Guards for his offer to raise a regiment for service in the East. Gentlemen from all parts of the province had signified their willingness to join him.

BRAZIL.

The last session of the Brazilian Chambers was closed and the second session opened on the 1st inst. by Commission, in the absence of the Princess Regent, who is indisposed. The Speech from the Throne says that the state of public health is good. The drought in the northern provinces of the empire was, it was pointed out, productive of great misery, but the Government had taken measures to relieve the suffering population. The conclusion of a treaty with the Berne Postal Union and of a Consular convention with Italy is announced.

THE CAPE COLONIES.

We have news from Cape Town by telegram from Madeira May 15. The British troops arrived at Pretoria, the capital of the Transvaal, on the 4th, and were cordially received by the population. A congratulatory address to Sir Theophilus Shepstone has been signed by a large number of the inhabitants. The deputation sent to protest against the annexation of the Transvaal left on May 9 for England. The despatch adds that everything is quiet, and property has risen in value since the Transvaal became British territory.

AUSTRALIA.

The political news from Melbourne brought by the mail chiefly relates to the preparations for the general elections, the results of which have been already telegraphed. The revenue returns for the quarter ending March 31 had been published. The total revenue for the quarter was £1,161,908, as compared with £1,115,535 for the same period in the previous year.

INDIA.

The Calcutta correspondent of the *Times*, in a telegram dated Monday, says that it is stated, apparently on good authority, that the Government is trying to raise a portion of the loan estimated for in the Budget by asking the native chiefs to subscribe, and that it has succeeded in getting the promise of over three-quarters of a million pounds in this way. The Calcutta Mohammedans are taking steps to call a meeting for the purpose of showing their sympathy with Turkey. There seems to be but little excitement among them on the subject; but this, it is said, is not owing to any want of interest, but to the desire to avoid the appearance of disloyalty to the British Government. With regard to the famine, the correspondent says that the latest news from the famine districts is much more cheerful, a general rainfall having greatly improved the prospects. The south-west monsoon burst at Colombo on May 14, and may therefore be expected to reach the Bombay coast early in June. If it come in good time, and bring sufficient rain, there will probably be a large diminution in the numbers on the relief works, and the Government will be able to congratulate itself on having safely passed the crisis of the famine.

CHINA.

The China papers received by the overland mail state that there is still great suffering in the province of Shantung in consequence of the famine. It is asserted that the Woosung Railway is to be extended to Soochow. A proclamation has been posted at Wuhu expressing the strongest satisfaction at the advent of foreigners to the port.

Baboo Romesh Chunder Mitter has been appointed a Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Fort William, in Bengal, in the room of Mr. F. A. B. Glover, deceased.

Peace has been concluded between Egypt and Abyssinia, King John having accepted the conditions proposed by Gordon Pasha (Colonel Gordon).

A score of Greek brigands have made a descent on Turkey and carried off a wealthy inhabitant, for whose ransom they demand a large sum.

Vesuvius has been unusually agitated for some days, showing at night the reverberation of fire at the mouth. A new crater has recently opened, above which a cone was formed.

A telegram from Alexandria states that the exhumation of the obelisk Cleopatra's Needle was completed on Wednesday. Eighteen inches of the apex are gone and the corners are damaged, but otherwise the obelisk is in fair condition.

News has been received in London of the death of Kido, one of the leading members of the Japanese Government. He died suddenly at Kioto on May 27. Kido was a member of the Iwakura Embassy to Europe a few years ago.

After two days' animated discussion, the Jersey States, by twenty-one to sixteen votes, have resolved to suspend all further operations at present with the new harbour works, on which about £170,000 has been expended.

At a meeting of the Central Society for the completion of the Cathedral of Cologne it was stated that during 1876 the sum of 1,190,090 marks was employed in the work. From 1864 to 1876 the total sum spent for the completion of the towers amounted to 7,661,177 marks.

THE CHURCH.

Corscombe Church, near Beaminster, was reopened on Tuesday week, after undergoing a complete restoration.

The Bishop of Ely has reopened the parish church of Trumpington, near Cambridge, after restoration.

A series of lectures on the Classic Preachers of the Church of England, at St. James's, Piccadilly, was begun on Sunday afternoon by the Rev. Dr. Farrar, Canon of Westminster, who treated of Bishop Wilson, the Saintly Preacher.

The Rev. James Fleming, B.D., Vicar of St. Michael's, Chester-square, and Honorary Chaplain to the Queen, has been offered by the Crown the Residuary Canonry in York Minster, which has been rendered vacant by the elevation of Bishop Thorold to the Episcopal bench.

The foundation-stone of the new Church of All Saints, near Duncannon, in the county of Wexford, in the diocese of Ferns, was laid on Whitsun-Monday, by Lady Emily Chichester. The building, which will accommodate nearly a hundred persons, will cost about £1500.

A reredos, designed by Messrs. Carpenter and Ingelow, has been erected at St. Edmund's, Northampton, by Mrs. Franklin, as a memorial of her husband and her sister. A mosaic pavement, copied from one at Sherborne, has also been laid down by some of the parishioners in memory of Mrs. Hughes, the wife of the Vicar.

Horton church, Bucks, a very old Gothic structure, which is supposed to be the mother church of Eton, was reopened last Saturday, after restoration, by the Bishop of Oxford. In the chancel lie the remains of Sarah, the wife of John Milton, and it was in the parish that the poet wrote his "L'Allegro" and "Il Penseroso."

The Rev. G. W. Gedge, Diocesan Inspector for Surrey, has been appointed Clerical Organising Secretary to St. John's Foundation School for the Sons of the Clergy, Leatherhead. Mr. Gedge will retain his inspectorship of West Surrey and the Channel Islands in the Winchester diocese, but resign that of Mid and East Surrey, now transferred to the Rochester diocese.

A new church is to be erected on the site of St. Mary's, Brighton, which lately fell in during the execution of extensive repairs. It will be in the Early French style, and will cost about £12,000. On Thursday week the foundation-stone was laid by Miss Blanche Elliott, sister of the late Incumbent. The Bishop of Chichester was present and preached a sermon at St. James's before proceeding to the site.

The old historic church of Bangor Monachorum, in the county of Flint, was reopened by the Bishop of St. Asaph on the 18th ult. The edifice has been thoroughly restored under the direction of Mr. Douglas. The cost of the restoration exceeds £3000, towards which the patron, the Duke of Westminster, the Rector, the churchwarden, and the chief landowner (Mr. Peel, of Brynypys) have each given £500. The pulpit and porch are private gifts, "In Memoriam."

On Tuesday, the 5th inst., the Rev. Thomas James, Curate of Orsett, Essex, who is leaving the parish, was presented with a handsome pocket Communion Service and a service of plate, value forty guineas. The presentation was made by Mr. Wingfield Baker and Dr. Corbet in the institute before a large audience. The subscribers numbered about 250, and included nearly every family in the parish, Dissenters as well as Churchmen.

The Dover-street adult male week-night Bible class assembled in St. Andrew's Schools, Leeds, recently, to hear the farewell address of the Rev. A. J. Binnie, who has for some time past been labouring in the parish. After its delivery he was presented by the Mutual Improvement Society and the Bible class with a pocket Communion Service and an inkstand; and Mrs. Binnie received from the teachers and friends a dressing-case and silver card-case, as a token of the affection and esteem in which she is held by them.

The Church of St. Nicholas, Newcastle-on-Tyne, after being closed for some years for restoration, was reopened on Thursday week. It was founded, according to the authority of a volume preserved in the vestry, in the year 1091, by St. Osmund of Salisbury. The total cost of the work amounts to £21,400, of which only £250 has to be raised. At the opening service about 2000 persons were present. The Bishop of Durham preached from Eph. ii. 20. The beauty and grandeur of the church, says the *Durham Advertiser*, was the subject of general remark as the congregation left the church.

The Ven. Archdeacon Iles began his first visitation at Lichfield on Monday. He mentioned that the Bishop of the diocese had taken upon himself the entire responsibility of the new mission to canal boatmen, and had engaged a chaplain and ordered a church-boat, in which his Lordship himself would make the first missionary journey. He also intimated that the scheme for the division of the archdeaconry of Staffordshire had been approved, and that eight of the twenty rural deaneries would be placed under the care of the Archdeacon of North Staffordshire.

On the 31st ult., St. Nicholas, Deningham, Norfolk, was reopened, after undergoing extensive repairs and restoration. The restoration of this fine church, just completed under the superintendence of Mr. Christian, is mainly due to the liberality of the Rev. Dr. Bellamy, president of St. John's College, Oxford, patron of the living. The whole cost of the work, in nave, aisles, and tower, has been borne by him, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners providing for the chancel. The total expenditure has been between £4000 and £5000. The Prince of Wales made a handsome contribution to the general offertory through Sir William Knollys, who was present at the morning service.

A special service in commemoration of the four-hundredth anniversary of the introduction of printing into England by William Caxton was held last Saturday afternoon in Westminster Abbey. Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise" was performed by a numerous choir and band, and at the close of the solo and chorus, "The night is departing, the day is approaching," Dean Stanley preached a brief sermon from the text, "The night is far spent, the day is at hand; let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light." At the conclusion of the sermon a collection was made for the Caxton Memorial Fund of the Printers' Pension, Almshouse, and Orphan Asylum Corporation.

The thirty-ninth anniversary meeting of the Society for Promoting the Employment of Additional Curates was held yesterday week at the Mansion House, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor. The work of the society was fully explained by several speakers, and among the resolutions adopted was the following:—"That the increased efforts made to extend the ministrations of the Church of England conclusively prove the great need of an increase in the number of bishops to superintend the work, and of clergymen to carry it on; and that the efforts now being made in connection with the Additional Curates Society to provide funds for the endowment of an additional number of English sees and for furthering the education of eligible candidates for holy orders are deserving of liberal support at the hands of members of the Church."

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

Lord Penzance presided over the first meeting of the Stock Exchange Commission, which was held on Tuesday.

Her Majesty's Judges were entertained on Wednesday at the Mansion House by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress.

Mr. Gladstone has consented to preside at the opening ceremony of the Caxton Exhibition at South Kensington.

The inspection season of the volunteers may be said to have begun last Saturday, three of the principal metropolitan rifle regiments being put through that ordeal in Hyde Park, in addition to which two brigade drills were held.

The Royal Horticultural Society's great summer flower show and annual show of the Pelargonium Society will take place on the 19th inst., under the large tent, the band of the Royal Horse Guards attending.

The ninth annual dinner in aid of the funds of the French Hospital and Dispensary is announced to be held at Willis's Rooms to-day (Saturday); his Excellency the Marquis d'Harcourt, the French Ambassador, will be in the chair.

The extension of the District Railway to Richmond by way of Hammersmith has been opened, and trains now run to and from the Mansion House every half hour throughout the day. Passengers are conveyed between Richmond and the district stations on the Hammersmith line without change of carriage.

Professor Goldwin Smith and Mr. J. H. Stoddart, editor of the *Glasgow Herald*, have been elected members of the Reform Club, under the rule which enables the political committee to select once a year from the candidates' book two gentlemen who have rendered services to the Liberal cause.

A "Maritime and Piscatorial Exhibition" was opened at the Royal Aquarium, Westminster, on Monday. The Prince of Wales has sent his collection of Indian stuffed fish, and Mr. Frank Buckland his casts of fish and models and other interesting natural curiosities.

Last Wednesday the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon, of the Tabernacle, laid the foundation-stone of a Baptist chapel in Trinity-road, Upper Tooting, and an embossed silver trowel was presented to him. Mr. Spurgeon has himself contributed £250 to the building fund.

On Wednesday evening the annual dinner of the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution was held at Willis's Rooms—the Earl of Dunmore in the chair. The subscriptions announced were £11,000, including legacies of £1000 each by the late Mr. George Moore and Mr. Thomas Congreve. There are 362 adult pensioners, and fifty children are maintained.

The first meeting of the season of the Four-in-Hand Club took place at the Magazine in Hyde Park on Wednesday afternoon, at five o'clock, when about twenty-one coaches mustered at the usual rendezvous. After a full-dress parade from the Magazine to the Albert Memorial, the procession broke up, a few taking their way to the Orleans Club at Twickenham.

Last Monday evening the annual meeting of the members of the Victoria (Philosophical) Institute was held at the house of the Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi, when the address was delivered by Mr. J. E. Howard, F.R.S. Captain F. Petrie (the honorary secretary) read the eleventh annual report, which spoke encouragingly of the progress of the institute.

On Monday evening the anniversary dinner of the United Law Clerks' Society was held at the Freemasons' Tavern—Mr. Justice Hawkins in the chair—the subscriptions amounting to £530; and Mr. Baron Pollock presided over the annual dinner of the Solicitors' Benevolent Association, at the Albion Tavern, on Wednesday, when the subscriptions amounted to £530.

Sir William Gull made a post-mortem examination on Wednesday of the body of Sir Henry Pelly, and found that the cause of death was not sunstroke, as stated in our Obituary column, but the rupture of a blood-vessel of the brain. The Queen inquired on Wednesday by telegraph as to the health of Lady Pelly and her two children.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer received on Wednesday a deputation of gentlemen interested in the passing of the Colonial Marriages Bill, and, in reply to their representations, was afraid that he could not hold out any encouraging expectation of his being able to find a day for the discussion of the measure, particularly as it was one which the Government were unable to accept.

By the kindness of the Benchers, the Inner Temple Gardens are open to the public every evening between the hours of six and eight o'clock. The privilege thus granted is taken advantage of principally by the poor children inhabiting the neighbouring courts and alleys, many hundreds of whom enter the gardens every evening. The gardens will continue open until the end of August.

Lord Houghton presided at the annual general meeting of the London Library. The report showed a net increase of ninety-two members, there being a loss by death, withdrawal, and otherwise of 119, as against 211 new members. The financial gain was £851. There remain altogether on the register 1518 members. The balance-sheet shows a gross income of £4758, and a gross expenditure of £3452.

At a general meeting of the Royal Horticultural Society on Wednesday—Lord Aberdare, president, in the chair—the medals which had been awarded at previous exhibitions were presented by his Lordship. After thanking the exhibitors for their generous support to the society, Lord Aberdare stated that he had received intimation that the Prince and Princess of Wales would honour the great summer flower show, on the 19th inst., with their presence.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers at the end of last week (the fourth week of May) was 80,837, of whom 37,208 were in workhouses and 43,629 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding weeks in 1876, 1875, and 1874, these figures show a decrease of 1002, 5713, and 15,234 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 729, of whom 473 were men, 200 women, and 56 children.

The School Board for London reassembled on Wednesday after the Whitsuntide holidays—Sir Charles Reed presiding. The debate on teachers' salaries and school fees was resumed and concluded. Both subjects were referred to the school management committee. The question of lending libraries was also discussed, and the school committee were instructed to establish a library in every permanent board school as far as possible, at a cost to the board of not more than £10.

The seventy-first anniversary festival of the Licensed Victuallers' Schools was held on Wednesday at the Alexandra Palace. The banquet took place in the grand concert hall, where covers were laid for 700. The spacious gallery was occupied by the wives and daughters of the licensed victuallers. Mr. J. Hiscutt Crossman took the chair. He was supported by the leading members of the trade. Speeches were made in support of the charity, and a large addition to the subscription-list was made.

The twenty-second annual dinner in aid of the funds of the funds of the Poplar Hospital for Accidents was held on Monday night at the Cannon-street Hotel, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor. During the past year nearly 4000 cases were treated at the hospital, and many had to be refused admission on account of the limited accommodation. The patients come almost entirely from the docks, warehouses, shipping, engineering works, and building-yards connected with the import and export trade of London.

A friend of the late Charles Kingsley has given £100 towards the endowment of a cot, to be called "The Charles Kingsley Memorial Cot," in the Cheyne Hospital for Incurable Children. The annual cost of each cot being £30, the additional sum required to make the endowment perpetual is £500, which sum it is hoped will be subscribed by others to whom Charles Kingsley's works have given pleasure, and who sympathised in his great love for children. Contributions will be received by the hon. secretary, at 47, Cheyne-walk, Chelsea.

The annual meeting of the friends of the Infant Orphan Asylum was held on Thursday week at the Cannon-street Hotel—Mr. John Deacon, the treasurer, presiding. The report referred to this being the jubilee year. It also stated that nearly 3000 children had been admitted into the institution since its establishment, most of whom had been placed in respectable positions. There are about 600 children in the asylum. The asylum is free from debt, and has a moderate reserved fund. It depends almost entirely upon voluntary contributions for its support, and more subscribers are needed.

A wardmote was held at Guildhall last Saturday for the election of an Alderman for the ward of Cheap, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the late Mr. Allen. Sir John Bennett and Mr. Waddell were nominated, and, the show of hands having been declared in favour of the former, a poll was demanded on behalf of Mr. Waddell, to take place on Monday. After a close and exciting contest, the Lord Mayor announced that 234 votes had been recorded for Sir John Bennett, and 233 for Mr. Waddell, thus giving the former a majority of 1. Mr. Waddell has demanded a scrutiny, which will begin on the 22nd inst.

An inquiry was held on Wednesday by Mr. Payne, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, respecting the death of Patrick Toobig, a wealthy costermonger. John Tatherage and Arthur Willis Payne, two omnibus drivers, were charged at the Guildhall Police Court with causing the death of the man, and were remanded on bail. The accused, after having been cautioned, said it was not true that the omnibuses were racing, and after other evidence had been heard the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against the drivers. There was found £250 sewed in the deceased's coat, and it was further stated that he was worth £800. By his will he leaves £100 to each of his two sons, and the remainder to his daughter.

Cardinal Manning, presiding yesterday week at a meeting of Roman Catholics, held in celebration of the Pope's Jubilee, pointed to the great change which had passed over the world during the pontificate of Pius IX. When the present Pope began to reign all the nations of Europe were in unity with him, and all Governments looked upon him as the lawful Sovereign of Rome. But although they now regarded him as a dethroned Monarch, there never was a time, in the opinion of his Eminence, when the Church of Rome was more united than it was at present.—In all the Roman Catholic churches and chapels in the two dioceses of Westminster and Southwark solemn services were held on Sunday in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Pope's episcopate.

The fourteenth annual horse show was opened at the Agricultural Hall last Saturday, and is considered to be an unprecedentedly good one. The hunters are remarkably fine animals, and the number of entries—130 altogether—is unusually large. In the first class, for weight-carrying horses, there were thirty-five competitors, and it was a matter of some difficulty for the judges to decide which were best entitled to the prizes where all displayed excellences of the highest order. The champion cup was, however, awarded to Mr. Foord Newton for his four-year-old Sir George, which took the prize at Manchester. For the second class of hunters, without conditions as to weight, there were forty entries. The judges were the Marquis of Waterford, the Earl of Shannon, and Lord Valentia.

Another attempt at highway robbery on Blackheath, smacking of the days of Dick Turpin, is reported. It is stated that a few minutes before eleven o'clock on Monday night Mrs. Amelia Potter, of the Redlands, Shooters'-hill-road, and Mrs. Poole, her daughter, were being driven home across Blackheath, when two masked men suddenly appeared in front of the carriage and called upon the driver to stop. At the same time they presented pistols at the heads of the coachman and the groom. The former, instead of stopping the horses, began to thrash with his whip the man who had hold of the reins. The man then let go his hold of the horses and ran away with his companion in the direction of Greenwich. The masked men are described as "of short stature, well dressed, and having the appearance of men belonging to a rather superior order of society." The coachman says he believed they alighted from a four-wheeled cab which he saw near the spot. Their description corresponds with that of the men who last week stopped a carriage on Blackheath and succeeded in obtaining a gentleman's purse and money. Since that time the police have made every effort to discover the perpetrators of the robbery, and a large force of constables has been stationed each night upon the heath. At Romford a farm bailiff named Wood was a few nights ago knocked down in the outskirts by two men and robbed of his purse.

There were 2225 births and 1443 deaths registered in London last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 106 below, whereas the deaths exceeded by 64, the average numbers in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The deaths included 61 from smallpox, 69 from measles, 28 from scarlet fever, 8 from diphtheria, 41 from whooping-cough, 16 from different forms of fever, and 13 from diarrhoea. Thus to the seven principal diseases of the zymotic class 236 deaths were referred, against 246 and 220 in the two preceding weeks. These 236 deaths were five above the corrected average number from the same diseases in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The fatal cases of smallpox, which in the three preceding weeks had been 78, 70, and 69, further declined last week to 61, of which 27 were certified as unvaccinated and 12 as vaccinated; in the remaining 22 cases the medical certificates did not contain any information relating to vaccination. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 355, 333, and 303 in the three preceding weeks, further declined to 259 last week, which, however, exceeded the corrected average weekly number by 40. In Greater London 2661 births and 1713 deaths were registered. Eight fatal cases of smallpox were registered in the Outer Ring. Five deaths from whooping-cough were returned in Croydon. The mean temperature was 53.7 deg., being 2.4 deg. below the average. The duration of registered sunshine in the week was 44 hours out of the 113.2 hours that the sun was above the horizon.



THE WAR: CONSECRATION OF THE BANNERS OF THE BULGARIAN LEGION IN THE PRESENCE OF THE GRAND DUKE NICHOLAS AND HIS SUITE.

FROM A SKETCH BY ONE OF OUR SPECIAL ARTISTS.



"FRIENDS IN COUNCIL." BY J. D. WATSON.

PARLIAMENT.

LORDS.

The House of Lords reassembled after the Whitsuntide recess on Monday. But little business has hitherto been done. Earl Granville on Monday drew from the Duke of Richmond and Gordon the announcement that the report of the Burials Bill had been fixed for June 18, and that ample notice would be given of any amendments that might be forthcoming. The Earl of Belmore having called attention to the dangers arising from the mismanagement of joint railway stations under the control of different companies, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon thought there was need for improvement, urged that a standing order would scarcely remove the difficulties, and repeated that the whole scheme of railway management was under the consideration of the Government. On Tuesday a sitting of twenty minutes' duration sufficed to advance various bills a stage, including the Consolidated Fund Bill for £5,900,000.

The time of their Lordships was occupied principally on Thursday by the consideration of the Scotch Game Laws Bill.

COMMONS.

Hon. members learnt on the second sitting after the recess that, possibly in consideration of the extension of the Whitsuntide holidays over the Derby Day, Government would claim tribute from them in the shape of a quarter of an hour of their valuable time every day for the rest of the Session. Thenceforth, the Chancellor of the Exchequer thought public business should begin at a quarter past instead of half-past eight. Fresh from his yachting trip in the Sunbeam, "Round the World and Back Again," Mr. Brassey then metaphorically shivered his timbers, and gave cheerful support to Lord C. Hamilton's motion calling upon the Government to seriously consider how they could improve the harbour accommodation on the north-east coast of England. But Mr. Pease moved an amendment to the effect that the matter should be left in the hands of the local authorities. Sir C. Adderley and Sir Stafford Northcote offering mild opposition to both motion and amendment, and at the same time urging that the Ministry were not unmindful of the question, the House negatived Lord C. Hamilton's resolution by 99 to 28 votes. A count-out ensued whilst the alleged sale of Crown lands in the Forest of Dean was under discussion.

On Monday various questions stopped the way of business, as usual. Some were not without point or importance. So grave and learned a personage as Dr. Lyon Playfair may, perhaps, be acquitted of intentionally casting a stigma upon the gentlemen of the Admiralty who held the inquiry respecting Captain Nares's Arctic Expedition; it was possibly by a slip of the tongue that he said on the Navy Estimates he would call attention to the report of the Scurvy Committee. If there be not an exodus from England to Jersey and Guernsey it will not be the fault of the Home Secretary, for Mr. Cross informed Mr. Cowen that inhabitants of the Channel Isles are exempted from Imperial taxation and enjoy the "doubtful" privilege of Home Rule. Then Lord George Hamilton had the satisfaction of informing Mr. Courtney that the famine in India would cost £5,000,000, and he would have to ask the House for a portion of that sum. Sir G. Bowyer was about to allude to Mr. Gladstone's participation in the Federal Union of Liberal Associations in Birmingham, but was ruled out of order. The right hon. member for Greenwich shortly after made his first speech in the House since his "starring" appearance at Birmingham. In Committee on the Oxford and Cambridge Universities Bill, Mr. Goschen had moved a clause throwing open fellowships to laymen. This clause having been seconded by Sir O. Dilke, supported by Mr. O. Morgan and Mr. Trevelyan, and opposed by Mr. Mowbray, Mr. Beresford-Hope, and Mr. Hanbury, Mr. Gladstone admitted that the question was by no means free from difficulty, but was disposed on the whole to go with his right hon. friend the member for the city of London, and to say he would not rely on the absolute limitation of fellowships to tenure by clergymen for securing what he thought to be objects of great importance. Mr. Hardy, on the other hand, thought the Commissioners would be competent to deal with the matter. He was answered by the Marquis of Hartington; and Mr. Goschen's clause was only rejected by a narrow majority—147 against 138 votes. Sir Charles Dilke raised the question of Clerical Fellowships once again by moving an amendment to clause 18, but his amendment was negatived by 173 to 153, and the clause was adopted. A fruitless division followed against clause 56; and the bill passed through Committee, and was reported. The Customs, Inland Revenue, and Savings Banks Bills were then read the third time; the second reading of the Bishops' Bill was postponed; the Companies Act Amendment Bill was read the second time; the Colonial Fortifications Bill was passed through Committee, some other business was transacted.

Mr. Whalley gave the keynote for the questions asked with regard to the war on Tuesday. The hon. member for Peterborough elicited from Mr. Bourke that no other Power had passed an opinion on Lord Derby's reply to Prince Gortschakoff's despatch. Later, Mr. Bourke answered Mr. Gourley to the effect that Russia would adhere to the Declaration of Paris regulating maritime warfare; whilst as for the Suez Canal, the position taken by her Majesty's Government in the matter would be found stated in the correspondence issued to the House. The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs further informed Sir W. Harcourt that he was of opinion that the Porte also had made declaration of an intention to observe the maritime rules of the Treaty. These answers did not at all satisfy Mr. Gourley or Mr. E. Jenkins. The latter moved the adjournment of the House in order to comment on the decision of Lord Derby (whose despatch had been published that day) not to allow the blockade of the Suez Canal by the fleet of Russia or of Turkey. Mr. Jenkins was supported by Mr. Whalley; but Sir H. D. Wolff threw his shield over the Ministry, whom he has quite taken under his protection during the discussion of the Eastern Question. After this, not a word from Sir Stafford Northcote could be needed. Indeed, the matter eventually dropped on the understanding that Mr. Gourley would again put his question on Friday. Mr. A. Egerton having explained away the reported mutiny on board H.M.S. Alexandra by stating that a few slight acts of insubordination had occurred, the prolonged discussion in Committee of the Prisons Bill was resumed. Irish members (postponing for the nonce a Select Committee of Inquiry into the Parliamentary conduct of Mr. Parnell and Mr. Biggar) rallied round Mr. O'Connor Power whilst he dilated on the alleged hardships of the Fenian convicts, and moved an amendment, asserting that no prison legislation would be deemed satisfactory that did not deal with convict establishments. Mr. Cross, endeavouring to mollify the representatives of the Emerald Isle by sprinkling over them some of his patent essence of common sense, pointed out that the Prisons Bill would ameliorate the condition of prisoners in the long run. With a devotion worthy a better cause, Mr. Whalley seized the opportunity to animadvert on the treatment to which a certain "prisoner at Dartmoor" had been subjected; but his chival-

rous championship was thrown away upon an impatient House. Mr. O'Connor Power's amendment was then withdrawn; and a couple of clauses moved by Dr. Kenealy, one to repeal existing prison regulations, the other to prevent flogging, were negatived. Mr. Mitchell Henry, the hon. member who objected to be likened unto a *jeune premier*, moved a series of resolutions affirming that the burden of imperial taxation imposed on Ireland is excessive, and out of proportion to her financial ability to bear it as compared with England. This the Chancellor of the Exchequer could not allow. With that tone of gentle remonstrance which serves the right hon. gentleman alike for an Eastern or a financial question, and with the accompanying manual action which suits his expostulatory voice to a nicety, Sir Stafford Northcote used a number of forcible arguments against the resolutions, culminating with the not inapt remark that if Irishmen chose to drink whisky, which he did not say might not be suited to their climate, in preference to porter, they had no reason to complain that taxation in this respect fell more severely upon them than upon the population of England. The mellow voice of Mr. Butt pleaded plausibly in support of Mr. Mitchell Henry, who said a few words in reply to the Leader of the House and to the other hon. members who took part in the debate; and, the vote being taken on the first resolution, it was rejected by 152 to 34 votes. The House was counted out whilst Mr. Whalley was calling attention to Mr. John de Morgan's petition, and to the expenditure on the Tichborne prosecution.

The first event of Wednesday's sitting was a vain endeavour on the part of the Marquis of Hartington to obtain from Sir Stafford Northcote a promise that he would lay on the table copies of the despatch containing the intimation that "an attempt to blockade or otherwise interfere with the canal or its approaches would be regarded as a menace to India and as a grave injury to the commerce of the world," and any reply from the Russian Government which might have been received by her Majesty's Government. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had not had an opportunity of seeing Lord Derby, and could not say whether it would be convenient or inconvenient to produce the papers; and, as for the correspondence regarding M. de Lesseps and the Suez Canal, that had been published, because a meeting of the company was fixed for this week. Thereupon Sir William Harcourt announced that he would return to the charge on the morrow. So little fresh is to be said on the subject of granting the Parliamentary suffrage to women, that Mr. Jacob Bright made no speech in moving the second reading of his Bill to remove their electoral disabilities. Mr. Hanbury, formerly an advocate for the measure, now moved its rejection, but Mr. Forsyth, reappearing in his character of an intellectual St. George, mounted his hobby, and rode to the rescue of the damsels who suffer under these disabilities. The O'Donoghue would vote for a bill to remove the disability under which ladies laboured in the matter of "popping the question," but would stop there. This trifling with a great topic brought up Mr. Hopwood, who warmly supported the bill, which, after being opposed by Sir W. Barttelot, Mr. Balfour, Mr. Beresford-Hope, and Mr. Butt, and supported by Mr. M'Laren, Sir J. McKenna, Mr. Henley, and Mr. Jacob Bright, was talked out by Mr. Courtney, who, in answering the hon. member for Limerick, thus showed a rather Irish mode of upholding the measure.

The business of the House on Thursday evening commenced by a little passage of arms between two Baronets. Sir E. Watkins, referring to the opinion expressed by the Lord Chief Justice on the occasion of the trial of "Twyross v. Grant," to the effect that parties resorting to certain practices for the purpose of raising the value of particular stocks on the Exchange were guilty of the offence of obtaining money under false pretences, asked the Attorney-General whether it was the intention of the Government to prosecute the parties to the transactions disclosed in the report of the Foreign Loans Committee. Sir R. Peel seized the opportunity also of asking the hon. and learned gentleman a question couched in somewhat similar terms, but with the addition whether he intended to institute legal proceedings in reference to the case of the Humber Iron Works Company, of which Sir E. Watkin was chairman. Sir E. Watkin claimed the indulgence of the House whilst he offered a few observations. The right hon. Baronet was grossly in error and guilty of great injustice towards him. The facts were very simple; the trial of the case he alluded to, after occupying three days, resulted in the jury unanimously finding that no case had been made out, and that the prosecutor, who was a small attorney in Yorkshire, elected to be non-suited. The Lord Chief Justice stated that there was no case against him (Sir E. Watkin), and said that he left the court without the slightest imputation upon his character. The Attorney-General, responding, said he understood the Lord Chief Justice to condemn the practices referred to as equivalent to obtaining money under false pretences, but not to say that the parties concerned were liable to a criminal prosecution. He did not consider it his duty to initiate such prosecutions. In reply to an interpellation of Sir William Harcourt, the Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that, in the communications which her Majesty's Government had made to the Government of Russia and to the Porte in reference to the Suez Canal, they had no wish to prescribe the particular limitations of what either belligerent might deem to be within its rights. Their object was simply to protect the Suez Canal from being blocked or injured either by offensive or defensive measures on the part of either belligerent. They did not anticipate that any measures of the kind would be resorted to by either of them. The Government did not feel it expedient to enter further into the question. In reply to Mr. Whalley, Mr. Bourke stated that the intimation to Russia that an attempt to blockade or otherwise interfere with the Suez Canal or its approaches would be deemed a menace to India, &c., would not have been given by her Majesty's Government unless they intended to act upon it. He might, however, add that Lord Derby had not the slightest apprehension that any occasion would arise for so acting. With regard to the "co-operation or consent" of the other neutral Powers, those Powers are interested, like ourselves, in the keeping open of the Suez Canal, and we have every reason to believe that the course which her Majesty's Government has adopted meets with their approval. In reply to Sir H. D. Wolff, Mr. Gourley said the resolution he proposed to move was as follows:—

That the Government be requested to enter into negotiations with Russia and the Porte for the purpose of obtaining guarantees that the free navigation of the Suez Canal shall not be interfered with during the continuance of the present war; and, in order to prevent future complications in the route to India, the Government be requested to adopt such measures as they think necessary for protecting the canal and its approaches, and the adjoining property.

Mr. E. Jenkins thereupon gave notice that he would move as an amendment:—

That, in the opinion of this House, no arrangement with regard to the Suez Canal at once satisfactory to Europe can be effected without concert with the Powers of Europe, and before taking steps with regard to the future status and regulations of the Suez Canal her Majesty's Government will endeavour to secure a permanent settlement by the co-operation of the Powers interested in its navigation.

The Prisons Bill, as amended, was under consideration during the rest of the night.

The Extra Supplement.

"COUNTING HER CONQUESTS."

The fair lady whom Mr. Brewtnall has surprised in a mood of triumphant self-complacency, standing apart from the crowded ball-room, among the flowers of the adjoining conservatory, between the last dance up to midnight and the announcement that supper is ready, has a pretty memorandum-book, or ivory tablet, in her gloved right hand; she is perusing its record with evident satisfaction. It is a list of the gentlemen who have implored the favour of her hand for the dances of that festive night, and most of whom, she has reason to believe, are fascinated by her charms and graces, so that she now enjoys an agreeable sense of power and of pre-eminence in her own sex, as well as the pleasure of being adored by not a few of the male portion of mankind and taking up a large share of social regard. There are many women, according to their own frank confession, particularly fond of this kind of success; but it is not exactly the disposition to make a good wife and mother, and he who is seriously looking for a desirable partner in life will do wisely to avoid the young lady, however beautiful, highborn, and accomplished, who is capable of seeking her gratification in the way here noticed.

"FRIENDS IN COUNCIL."

With a touch of ironical humour, as though a professional nincompoop were fitly mated in deliberative conference with a puppet-head of carved and painted wood, this title has been given to the subject of Mr. J. D. Watson's picture. The ancient and ridiculous order of Fools or Jesters, who were frequently attached to the household service or personal suite of a nobleman or of a rich man in the higher ranks of society, are most familiar to the reader of Shakespeare's plays. We can yet see, in the so-called "Clown" of an equestrian performing Circus or Amphitheatre, a coarse imitation of the grotesque style of attire, the impertinent behaviour, and the peculiar vein of forced drollery, which this unhappy class of merry-makers were required to assume for the amusement of their patrons in the long hours of tedious vacancy between one hunting party and the next, or to beguile the lazy afternoon from dinner-time to supper. The Fool was usually equipped, however, with a cap-and-bells on his head, and with a jacket likewise bearing small bells suspended to its lappets and skirts, while he often carried in his hand the characteristic "bauble," a short mace or staff of office, ornamented with the effigy of a Fool's Head. It is not difficult to fancy him left alone, in some obscure gallery or cell of the baronial castle, with leisure to concoct new jokes and pranks, or to con over his memories of the old; and we can even imagine, as here represented, that he may be found talking to the silly little idol, as one would talk to a cat or dog, for a slight relief from solitary dulness.

MUSIC.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

The repetition of "Faust" on Thursday week included two changes from the former cast—the first appearance of Mdle. Synnerberg on any stage, and the début of Signor Ordinas. The lady has a mezzo-soprano voice of agreeable quality, which had already been heard in concert performances. She gave the songs of Siebel with good effect, more particularly the first, "Le parole d'amor." Signor Ordinas can scarcely fail to prove a valuable acquisition to Mr. Gye's company. The new singer has a good bass voice, his intonation is correct, and his phrasing shows cultivation. Moreover, he is an excellent actor, his qualities in which respect could scarcely have been put to a greater test than in the character of Mephistopheles—a difficult one to render dramatically effective in combination with the vocal requisites. Some tendency to exaggerated gesture may perhaps be admitted, but this is more easily conceded than its opposite in a stage delineation of such a character. Mdle. Albani resumed her part of Margherita, the charm and power of her performance having been again admirably displayed. The jewel song received the usual encore. Signor Gayarré, as Faust, sang with good effect, particularly in the cavatina "Salve dimora," and in other portions of the garden-scene music. It was his first performance of the character in England. The cast was otherwise as before.

Yesterday (Friday) week Madame Adelina Patti appeared as Leonora in "Il Trovatore," a character in which (in 1871) she first largely proved the possession of those capabilities for tragic expression which contrast so remarkably with the powers of genial comedy for which alone she was before celebrated. The performance presented all its former high vocal and histrionic merits. The same occasion brought back Signor Nicolini, who repeated his well-known performance as Manrico. Other features of the cast were the same as last year.

On Monday Verdi's latest stage work, "Aida," was given, for the first time this season. The work possesses a special interest as being the latest of Verdi's operas, and showing a strong departure from that melodic style which gained such popularity for his earlier productions. The frequent occurrence of prolonged declamation in "Aida" would seem to prove that Verdi has been somewhat influenced by the music of Wagner. The characteristics of "Aida," however, were sufficiently commented on in our notice of its first production at the Royal Italian Opera last season, when the cast was almost identical with that of Monday; all-important having again been the fine performance of Madame Adelina Patti in the title-character. The part of Amneris was transferred to Madame Scalchi, who rendered it with great efficiency, both in its vocal and dramatic aspects. Signor Nicolini again gave effect to the music of Radamés especially in the declamatory passages; and Signor Graziani's Amonasro was the same forcible performance as before—other parts having been filled by Mdle. Cottino (a Priestess), Signor Sclara (the King of Ethiopia), and Signor Capponi (Ramphis, the High Priest of Isis).

"Linda di Chamouni" was given on Tuesday, and "Les Huguenots" on Wednesday; the remaining announcements for this week having been "Guglielmo Tell," "I Puritani," and "L'Etoile du Nord."

"Il Vascello Fantasma," an Italian version of Wagner's "Der Fliegende Holländer" ("The Flying Dutchman") is announced for Saturday, June 16, with a strong cast, including Mdle. Albani as Senta, and M. Maurel as the doomed captain of the Dutch vessel.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

The closing performances of last week call for no comment, having been repetitions—on the Thursday of "Faust," and on Saturday of "Il Barbiere di Siviglia," substituted for "Robert le Diable," on account of Mdle. Salla's indisposition.

On Monday "Faust" was given again; and on Tuesday "Rigoletto" introduced one of the new singers promised in Mr. Mapleson's prospectus, Signor Talbo, who made a very successful début as the Duke. The singer possesses a tenor voice of considerable power and compass, with some good high

chest notes. He was greatly applauded throughout, and was encored in his first aria, "Questa o quella," and in the canzone, "La donna è mobile." As Rigoletto, Signor Galassi made his first appearance this season, and repeated a performance of high vocal and histrionic merit. Mdlle. Alwina Valleria sang with great effect as Gilda, and the co-operation of Madame Trebelli-Bettini as Maddalena was again a valuable feature.

"Lucia di Lammermoor" was announced for Thursday, with the second appearance of Mdlle. Chiomi as Lucia. "Faust" was to be given yesterday (Friday), and "La Figlia del Reggimento" this (Saturday) evening.

Herr Wachtel, the German tenor, is announced to appear at Her Majesty's Theatre on Tuesday next; and Mr. Mapleson has also entered into an engagement with Mdlle. Gerster, a soprano of continental renown, who is shortly to appear as Amina in "La Sonnambula." "Otello" is promised for Thursday next, with Madame Christine Nilsson as Desdemona, M. Faure as Iago, and Signor Tambrlik as Otello.

Herr Rubinstein's long and successful course of appearances closed for the season on Monday afternoon, when his farewell concert took place at the Crystal Palace. The programme opened with the fourth and most elaborate of his orchestral symphonies, that in D minor, entitled "Dramatic Symphony." Of this work we have already spoken in reference to its first performance in England at a concert of the Philharmonic Society. The ballet music from Herr Rubinstein's opera "Peramors," and a rather effective vocal duet from his Biblical opera, "Die Maccabäer," were included in Monday's programme. Herr Rubinstein's extraordinary powers as a pianist were displayed in Beethoven's fourth concerto (in G), and in three unaccompanied pieces by Liszt, Rubinstein, and Chopin. The concerto was conducted by Mr. Mauns, Herr Rubinstein having directed other portions of the concert. Madame Lemmens-Sherrington and Herr Henschel were the vocalists. There was a large attendance, and Herr Rubinstein was very warmly received.

The grand morning concert given by Madame Christine Nilsson at James's Hall on Wednesday had a double interest—first, in the special attraction offered by the performances of the concert-giver and of other eminent artists, and next in the purpose for which the concert was given—that of aiding the funds of the excellent institution (founded by Lady Augusta Stanley) the Westminster Training School and Home for Nurses. On past occasions Madame Nilsson has given concerts with similar purposes and with large results to the institutions benefited. Madame Nilsson sang on Wednesday Handel's air "From mighty Kings" and Cohen's "Valse de Bluets," besides having been associated with M. Faure in that gentleman's duet "Crucifix" (en core), and with Madame Trebelli in Rossini's duet "Giorno d'error." Other interesting vocal performances were contributed by Madame Trebelli, the Mdlles. Badia, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Signori Franceschi and Brocoloni; and Mdlle. Pommereul and Mdlle. Cognetti played, respectively, brilliant violin and pianoforte solos. Sir J. Benedict and Mr. Sidney Naylor conducted. There was a very large attendance.

On Wednesday afternoon, also, a National Welsh Concert was given at the Crystal Palace, in aid of the Tynwydd Miners' Fund; the performances having been under the direction of Mr. Brinley Richards. Nationality was duly represented, both with respect to the music and the performers, a special feature having been the appearance of one of the rescuers, Gwilym Thomas, who sang with Miss Mary Davies in Mr. B. Richards's duet, "How beautiful is night." Mr. Thomas possesses a good baritone voice, and knows how to use it well. He met with an enthusiastic reception. Other vocal music was very effectively rendered by Madame Edith Wynne, Misses M. Davies, M. Williams, Evans, Harries, M. J. Williams, and Wren; Mr. Sauvage, and Mr. J. L. Williams. Among the pieces was a new song, "The Men of Wales," composed for the occasion by Mr. B. Richards, and sung by Madame E. Wynne. Choral music, including "The Miner's Hymn," was contributed by the Welsh Choral Union and the Crystal Palace Choir; and Mr. John Thomas played a harp solo, and Mr. B. Richards a pianoforte piece, both on national airs. Between the parts of the concert Mr. Richard, M.P., delivered a brief address, appropriate to the occasion, and including a recognition of the exertions of Mr. Brinley Richards, who acknowledged the compliment. The successful result of the concert, together with the subscriptions announced, will doubtless largely increase the Miners' Fund.

A concert was given by Mr. C. H. Couldery at the Royal Academy of Music, in Tenterden-street, yesterday (Friday) week, when his cantata, "Christ's Entry into Jerusalem," was performed for the first time, and was favourably received. The work is a setting of words chiefly selected from the Holy Bible, and comprises several choruses and pieces for solo voices. The music is written with musicianly knowledge, and several numbers were very effective in performance, particularly the bass aria, "He bowed the heavens" (sung by Mr. Wadmore), and the unaccompanied trio, "Softly fall those sounds," rendered by Miss Jessie Jones, Miss M. Severn, and Mr. Cummings. This was encored. The cantata was given with a string band reinforced by the organ, at which Mr. Stephen Kemp presided. Mr. T. Pettit conducted.

The concert of Madame Edith Wynne took place on Thursday evening at St. James's Hall with an interesting programme, strongly reflective of the accomplished singer's (Welsh) nationality.

Mr. Charles Hallé is approaching the termination of his series of eight pianoforte recitals, the sixth of which took place yesterday (Friday) afternoon, when his programme consisted of quintet in F minor, op. 34, pianoforte, two violins, viola, and violoncello (Brahms); fantasia in C, op. 17, pianoforte solo (Schumann); solo, violin, adagio from ninth concerto (Spohr); and trio in E flat, op. 70, No. 2, pianoforte, violin, and violoncello (Beethoven). Mr. Hallé was assisted by Madame Norman-Néruda as solo violin, and Herren L. Ries, Straus, and Franz Néruda.

Yesterday (Friday) evening there was to be a great choral rehearsal of the London division of the Handel Festival choir at Exeter Hall, directed by Sir M. Costa.

One of Handel's least-known works, "Hercules," was to be revived at St. James's Hall yesterday (Friday) evening, conducted by Mr. H. Leslie, and with the co-operation of his excellent choir and an orchestra. Of the performance we must speak next week.

The fifth and last New Philharmonic concert of the twenty-sixth season takes place at St. James's Hall this (Saturday) afternoon, with an excellent programme, comprising Mendelssohn's Italian symphony, Beethoven's third "Leonora" overture, Raff's concerto for violin in B minor, Hiller's "concert-stück" for piano, and Reinecke's duet for two pianos on themes from Schumann's "Manfred" music.

Among the miscellaneous concerts of the week have been Madame Viard Louis's concert, at Willis's Rooms, on Monday; Mr. H. Ketten's Pianoforte Recital on Tuesday afternoon, at St. James's Hall; a concert given by Madame Sainton-Dolby, at the Royal Academy of Music, on Wednesday evening, in aid of the funds for the restoration of Handel's organ in the parish

church of Little Stanmore; the first of Mr. Lindsay Sloper's two matinées of pianoforte music at Willis's Rooms on Thursday; and, on the same day, the concert of Herr Henschel (the excellent baritone) at St. James's Hall; Mr. Richard Blagrove's seventh-concertina concert at the new Concert Room of the Royal Academy of Music; and Miss Grace and Josephine Sherrington's Matinée Musicale at the Hall, Primrose-hill-road, by permission of Mr. Holmes.

It is highly gratifying to be able to announce that Mdlle. Titiens is progressing most favourably towards recovery. The following telegram, in answer to an inquiry by the Queen, was dispatched to her Majesty, at Balmoral Castle, on Saturday afternoon last: "Mdlle. Titiens has been relieved of all the more urgent symptoms under which she was suffering, and may now be considered out of danger. (Signed) T. Spencer Wells, F.R.C.S., Horace S. Howell, F.R.C.S."

THEATRES.

At the Haymarket Mr. Buckstone took his usual benefit yesterday week, in the revived comedy of "The Overland Route," and appeared as Mr. Lovibond, greatly to the amusement of his numerous patrons. The house was crowded. Mr. Sims Reeves sang, to repeated plaudits, "Come into the garden, Maud;" after which Mr. Buckstone delivered his valedictory address. It was brief and to the purpose. Mr. Buckstone is now on a tour in the provinces, and visits in succession Newcastle, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Bradford, Liverpool, Manchester, and Birmingham. Mr. Joseph Jefferson meanwhile occupies the Haymarket boards, from Monday next, with a series of miscellaneous impersonations, commencing with the character of Golightly in the farce of "Lend Me Five Shillings," and that of Hugh de Bras in "A Regular Fix."

The Aquarium has secured some distinction by the revival of Farquhar's comedy of "The Inconstant," re-edited by Mr. Marshall, who has modified the dialogue with judgment and success, and provided with costumes by Mr. Planché. Mr. Warner merits praise for his performance of Young Mirabel, and Mr. Stephens is remarkably well suited for that of Old Mirabel.

The Whitsuntide season altogether has been remarkably barren, wanting in enterprise and novelty. Meanwhile there are rumours of good manuscript plays which vainly appeal for a hearing. We fear that managements are falling back into the old ruts, and that commercial speculation in this direction is effete.

The French drama continues to find an interested audience, at the Gaiety.

A special meeting of the subscribers to the Royal Dramatic College—Lord William Lennox in the chair—was held on Tuesday, when it was proposed, in default of sufficient support from the profession and the public, to sell the building, and apply to the Court of Chancery for a scheme for the disposition of the proceeds. An amendment, appointing a committee to consider the best means of preserving and extending the institution, was, however, passed.

The thirty-second anniversary festival of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held on Wednesday night, at the Freemasons' Tavern, under the presidency of the Duke of Beaufort. About seventy gentlemen sat down to dinner. During the evening a list of subscriptions was announced by Mr. Edgar, the secretary, amounting to nearly £800.

The Dramatic Authors' Society celebrate their annual dinner at Rosherville to-morrow. The chair will be taken by Mr. John A. Heraud, the author of "Videna; or, the Mother's Tragedy." We may mention that this gentleman has a volume in the press, consisting of two pieces, one entitled "Uxmal, an Antique Love Story," and the other "Macée de Lecdepart, an Historical Romance."

THE "FINISH" FOR THE DERBY.

Our last week's chronicle of "National Sports" described the victory of Lord Falmouth's bay colt Silvio, ridden by F. Archer, in a field of seventeen horses, including the winner, over the well-known course on Epsom Downs. We present an illustration of what may be called "the finish" of this interesting race for the Derby Stakes, which had a rather unexpected result. The moment chosen by the Artist for his sketch is just when Silvio made a great rush forward on the lower ground, about one hundred yards from the goal, and passed half a length in advance of Glen Arthur, while the latter at the same time passed before Rob Roy into the second place, by three quarters of a length. The skill of Archer's riding was greatly admired. The time occupied in the race was two minutes and fifty seconds. The winning horse was led into the paddock by his noble owner, amidst the cheers of a large assemblage of spectators. The net value of the Derby Stakes this year is about £6000. Silvio had comparatively few backers for the race, and numerous supporters of Rob Roy or of Chamant have suffered a disappointment.

Miss Milligan has given £5000 to the Royal Isle of Wight Infirmary.

A striking series of experiments with various forms of torpedo was made at Portsmouth on Tuesday in the presence of many naval and military officers and men of science.

At a meeting of the General Assembly of the Irish Presbyterian Church on Tuesday the Rev. George Bellis, for many years mission secretary to the Church, was unanimously elected Moderator for the ensuing year.

The Bath and West of England Agricultural Society opened its hundredth exhibition at Bath on Monday. The weather was very fine, and there was a large attendance. Alike in the extent of the show of implements and in the number and quality of the live stock, the exhibition was far in advance of all its predecessors. The Prince of Wales was one of the successful exhibitors, taking the first prize for Southdown yearling rams. Lord Falmouth carried off both first and second prizes for old bulls, while Mr. Tarling took all the first prizes in the heifer classes. Lady Pigot and Mr. Griffin have the best shorthorn bulls; Mr. W. Taylor and Mr. Archer Close the best Herefords; the Earl of Ellesmere and Mr. Street show the best agricultural horses, while Colonel Barlow has the best thoroughbred. At the annual meeting of the society on Tuesday—Lord Lansdowne, the president, in the chair—it was decided to hold the meeting for 1878 at Oxford; and the Earl of Jersey was elected president, with the Mayor of Bath, the Hon. W. Portman, and Mr. G. H. Morrell, vice-presidents. The Earl of Cork and Orrery, Sir T. D. Acland, M.P., Colonel Archer, and Mr. J. C. Morie Stevens were among the principal speakers.—A lamentable accident happened on Wednesday morning. A toll foot-bridge leading from the Great Western Railway station, at Bath, to the show-yard gave way as a considerable crowd was passing over the structure; a large number fell into the river Avon, and many were drowned.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The "off-day" at Epsom was characterised by very fine weather, but the card was not a particularly strong one, and the attendance somewhat smaller than usual. Only half a dozen contested the High Level Handicap, the chief event of the day, which was rendered additionally interesting by the presence of Petrarch (8st. 12lb.), who has not been seen in public since the Lincolnshire Handicap, and who made his first appearance in the colours of Lord Lonsdale. The Leger winner was on his best behaviour, and Cundance, taking him to the front at the distance, won very easily from Rabagas II. (7st. 4lb.), and Lillian (7st. 5lb.). The Two-Year-Old Stakes produced a dead-heat between Bishop Burton and Larissa, and, in the run-off, odds of 6 to 4 were laid upon the latter, who was in receipt of 10 lb. from Mr. Bush's colt. The Brocklesby winner was in trouble nearly a quarter of a mile from home, but, struggling on with his accustomed gameness, he fairly wore down Larissa, and won very cleverly indeed at the finish.

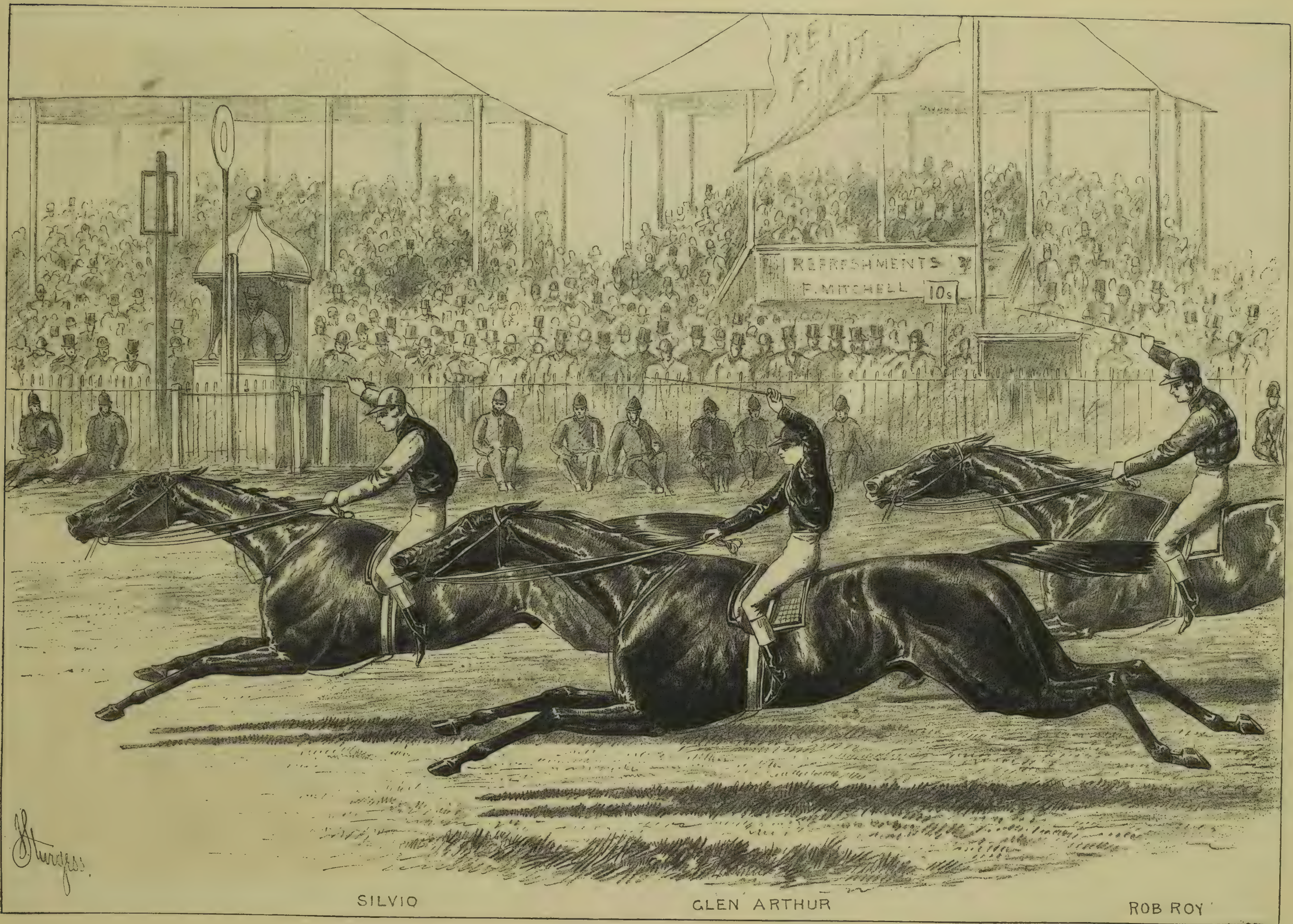
A complete change in the weather rendered the Oaks day one of the most unpleasant that we have endured this year, and that is saying a good deal. Heavy rain fell in the morning, and there was such a gale of wind that a portion of the roof of Barnard's Stand was blown away, and a great many of the booths and other temporary erections were completely destroyed. Under such depressing circumstances it is not surprising that comparatively few ladies visited the Downs, and the gay toilettes that we are accustomed to see on the last day of the meeting were conspicuous by their absence. On the whole, backers had a bad time of it. La Merveille disappointed them sadly in the Acorn Stakes, in which Birdie had little trouble in beating Bellicent, the hard-working Ersilia running a good third. The great race of the day came next, and if the field, which numbered nine, was a small one, Placida, Lady Golightly, Belphebe, and La Jochère, formed a quartet of very smart fillies. Placida was much liked in her preliminary canter, and the forward position unexpectedly obtained by Rhidoroch in the Derby made her a 2 to 1 favourite, as it was generally understood that she is about 14 lb. superior to the colt. The story of the race is easily told. The flag fell at the second attempt, and Placida at once went to the front and showed the way at a merry pace, Lady Golightly and Belphebe bring up the rear. When they had gone half a mile Plaisante was out of it, and the others constantly passed and repassed; but Placida was never caught, and, though Belphebe made a great effort in the last hundred yards, she was beaten cleverly by three parts of a length. Muscatel was a good third, and then came Lady Golightly, Quickstep, La Jochère, Astree, and Mirobolante, in the order named, Plaisante being beaten off. The winner was exceedingly well ridden by Jeffery, who, it will be remembered, secured the One Thousand upon Belphebe. Placida is a brown filly, by Lord Lyon—Pietas, and was certainly the most consistent, if not the best, performer of her sex last season, as she won no less than six out of eight races, beating, amongst others, such celebrities as Tangible, Ernest, Bruce, Chevron, and Shillelagh. Unfortunately, she has few future engagements, and is not in the St. Leger. The Epsom Cup, which was won by Dalham last year, produced a magnificent struggle between that horse and Hesper, and the former just failed to concede 12 lb. to Lord Lonsdale's colt, on whom Archer secured his eighth win during the meeting. There is little to add to our remarks of last week upon the Derby. With three Blair Athols in the first five, the enemies of the Cobham sultan are surely silenced for ever, and the Stud Company should have a great sale next Saturday. It has transpired that Rob Roy was seriously interfered with by the unwieldy Thunderstone as he rounded Tattenham Corner, and, but for this unfortunate contretemps, Mr. Mackenzie would probably have carried off the "blue ribbon" and £50,000 in bets at the first time of asking.

Messrs. Tattersall disposed of the Middle Park yearlings very successfully last Saturday, as only two out of forty-seven lots had to be sent back, and the capital average of 273 gs. was obtained. The young Rosicrucians were naturally the backbone of the sale, and a colt by that sire from Baz Bleu, the dam of Blue Gown, made 1500 gs., although, like Coruleus, his half-brother, he is a June foal. The Rosicrucian—Hilda colt (1050 gs.) was second in the list, and a filly by Rosicrucian—Pandore (900 gs.) came third. The Vespasians were also much liked, and the half-dozen sold averaged 323 gs.

So many important cricket-matches have taken place within the last few days that we can only glance briefly at the most interesting of them. Lancashire, thanks mainly to the fine batting of Mr. A. N. Hornby (68) and the bowling of W. McIntyre (twelve wickets), has defeated Derbyshire with ten wickets to spare. A somewhat weak eleven of the Gentlemen of England had little chance against the University of Cambridge. Messrs. I. D. Walker (50) and R. G. Hargreaves (38 and 12) did best for the former; but the fine scoring of Messrs. A. P. Lucas (90) and W. S. Patterson (57), and the Hon. A. Lyttelton (77) enabled the "light blues" to win in a single innings, with 56 runs in hand. North v. South, which was played at Prince's, enabled Mr. W. G. Grace to prove that he is as fresh as ever, and his splendid innings of 261, the largest score he has ever made in a first-class match, was well backed up by the 88 of Mr. J. M. Cotterill and the 54 of Mr. G. F. Grace. On the other side, E. Lockwood (45 and 36) batted well; but Messrs. W. G. Grace and W. R. Gilbert were both "on the spot," taking eleven and nine wickets respectively, and secured an easy victory in one innings, with 103 runs to the good. A very exciting contest between Yorkshire and Middlesex was won by the former eleven by 35 runs. Myers (49 and 25), Lockwood (45), and Eastwood (68) did most for the victors; and on the opposite side, Messrs. H. R. Webbe (53), C. E. Green (65), C. F. Buller (20 and 25), and M. Turner (31 and 21) chiefly distinguished themselves. Kent, though weakened by the loss of Lord Harris, who is suffering from a sprained wrist, had little trouble in defeating Hampshire by seven wickets. Messrs. A. W. Ridley (39 and 62) and C. Booth (73) worked hard for their county; while Kent was worthily represented by Willis (68) and Messrs. C. A. Absolom (42 and 23) and F. Penn (55 and, not out, 48).

A splendid fleet of yachts has been entered to contend for the Channel medal of the Royal Thames Yacht Club from the Thames to Dover, on the 11th inst.

The Royal Harwich Yacht Club regatta took place on Monday. The Veronica took the first prize in the match for schooners and yawls. In the match for cutters exceeding 41 tons, the Neva took first prize. In the match for cutter-yachts from 25 to 41 tons, the Britannia was first. In the match for yachts from 10 to 25 tons Vanessa was first; and in the match for yachts under 11 tons Lily was first. The usual Channel matches of this club were sailed on Tuesday. The course was from Harwich to Southend. Colonel Markham's Vol-au-Vent won the first prize; and the yawls' and schooners' prizes were taken by Mr. Macleay's Jullanar and Mr. Lampson's Miranda.



SILVIO

GLEN ARTHUR

ROB ROY

THE FINISH FOR THE DERBY.



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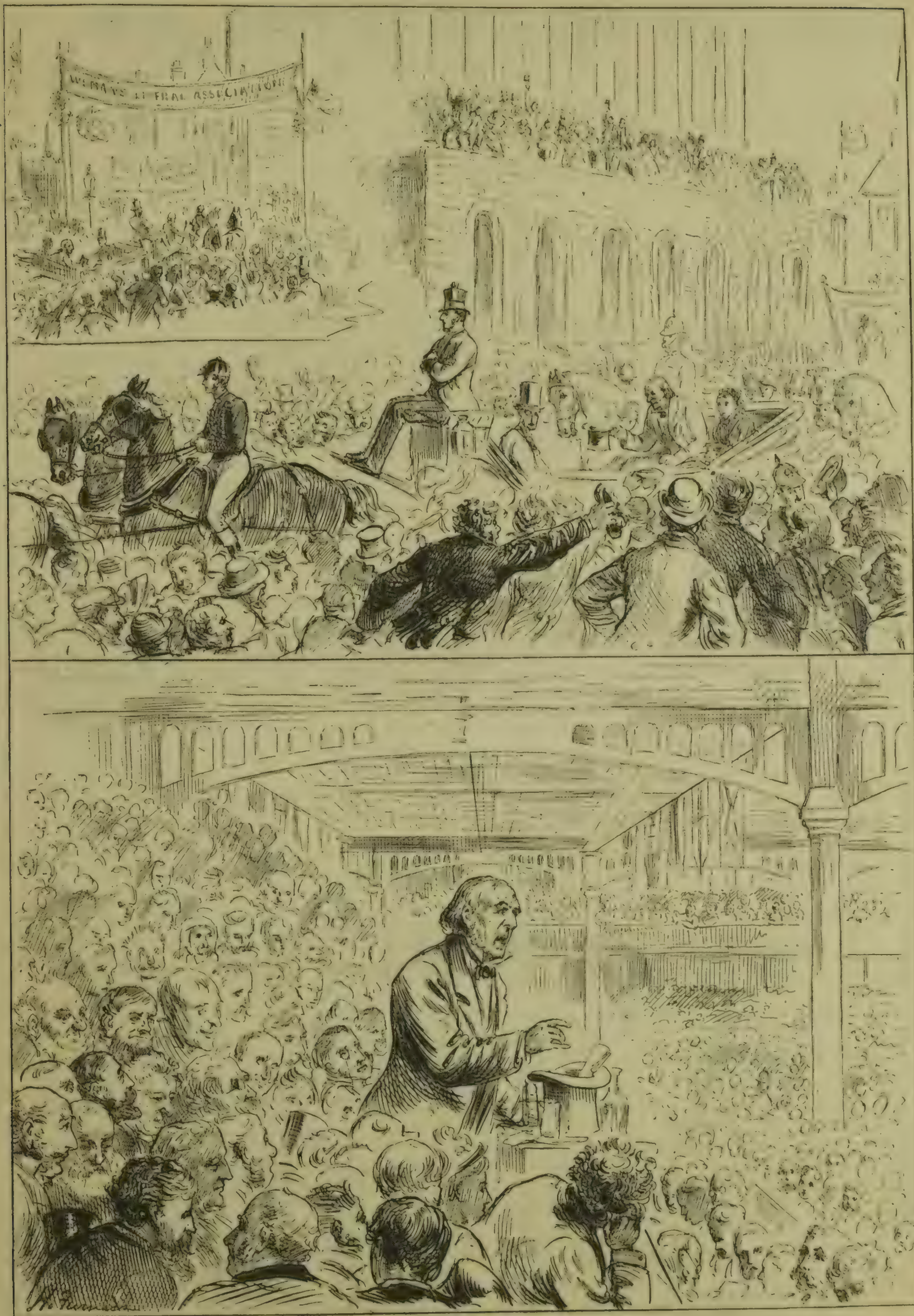
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SKETCHES OF THE WAR.

Our Special Artists, both on the Russian and on the Turkish side, in the campaign along the banks of the Danube, have supplied a number of Illustrations of recent events to furnish the Engravings for this week's publication. The Turkish fortified town of Rustchuk, which is occupied by a main part of the Sultan's forces arrayed on the defensive line of the Bulgarian frontier, affords the subjects for several incidental sketches by Mr. Melton Prior. We have also a scene in the camp of the Egyptian troops. On the other hand, we have sketches of the Russian head-quarters at Ploesti, north of Bucharest, and of the ceremony of consecrating banners for a Bulgarian Legion, formed under the patronage of the Grand Duke Nicholas. The portraits of his Chief of the Staff, General Nepokoitschitzky, of the ruling Prince Charles of Roumania, who leads his army to join that of Russia, and of Lieutenant Doubassoff, the young officer whose small party achieved the daring feat of blowing up a Turkish gun-boat on the river a fortnight ago, are presented in this Number of our Journal.

Prince Karl or Charles I., who has during eleven years past reigned over the united provinces of Wallachia and Moldavia, now called "Roumania," with a population of four millions and a half, is a German, of the Prussian Royal family, being a son of the late Prince Karl of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen. He is thirty-eight years of age, having been born on April 20, 1839. His election to be Prince of Roumania, in 1866, was consequent upon the revolution which deposed Alexander John Couza, the first ruler of the united provinces under the Constitution of 1861. Prince Charles is married to Elizabeth von Neuwid, daughter of the late Prince Hermann von Neuwid. The government of Roumania is Constitutional, with the legislative power intrusted to a Senate and a Chamber of Deputies at Bucharest, elected by all citizens who are twenty-five years of age, and who can read and write. The ordinary revenue is estimated at £3,600,000; some account of the Roumanian army has already been given in this Journal.

The Russian Chief of the Staff, General Nepokoitschitzky, is of Polish family, and is nearly seventy years of age. He has seen more service than most of the Russian leaders, and his experience of staff duty in particular has been long and continuous. He joined the army as an infantry officer, and first saw active service in the Caucasus, where his merit was so conspicuous that he speedily received a staff appointment. He held an important and responsible office on the general staff in the army which Russia sent to co-operate with Austria in quelling the Hungarian insurrection of 1849. In the war of 1854 and 1855 he was chief of staff to one of the corps composing the army with which Gortschakoff occupied the Principalities, and took part, under Paskiewitch, in the memorable siege of Silistria. Since 1855 the General has seen no active service, but has been continually in military employment of one sort or another. Although chief of the staff of the Army of the South, for which position he was chosen because of his acquaintance with the region of the Danubian Valley derived from his experience in the campaign of 1854, he is not the head of the superior general staff of Russia. That high office is filled by Count Heidan. Before his appointment to the office he now holds, General Nepokoitschitzky was at the head of the Commission for the reorganisation of the army on the new system which has replaced the old Russian system, and the operation of which, although its institution was so recent that its full value is as yet not realised, has done much to improve the Russian army. Although, then, in years and service, the General is unquestionably an old soldier, his position as President of this Commission sufficiently indicates that he is a disciple of the modern school of military organisation, and of strategy and tactics.

The Russian field army is commanded by the Grand Duke Nicholas, the Emperor's brother. The principal members of the Head-Quarter Staff are:—Chief of the Staff, Lieutenant-General Nepokoitschitzky; Aide to Chief of Staff, Major-General Levitzky; Chief Secretary of the Head-Quarter Staff, Councillor of State Stéfan; Commandant of Artillery, Lieutenant-General Prince Massalsky; Aide to Commandant of Artillery, Major-General Adamovitch; Commandant of Artillery Parks, Major-General Kanatich; Commandant of Engineers, Major-General Depp; Ataman of Field Cossacks, Lieutenant-General Fomine; Commandant at Head-Quarters, Major-General Vorieckoff; Chief of Military Communications, Lieutenant-General Katelei; Chief of Quartermasters, Major-General Stollenwald; Chief of Posts and Telegraphs, Major-General Stahl; Chief of Clerks, Major-General Zaitsoff; Inspector of Hospitals, Major-General Kossinsky; Aide to Inspector of Hospitals, Colonel Widischeff; Intendant of the Army, Councillor of State Aïrens; Aide to Intendant of Army, Councillor of State Leokovitch; Advocate-General, Councillor Aschamuroff.

The Russian army has not hitherto been organised in peace with higher units than the division, and only lately has the Army Corps been recognised. This consists of two Divisions of Infantry, with a Cavalry Division. As a rule, the Infantry Division consists of two Brigades, and the Brigade of two regiments. Each regiment has three battalions, so that there are six battalions to a Brigade, twelve to a Division, and twenty-four to an Army Corps. The fifth companies of battalions are tirailleurs, and the three tirailleur companies in a regiment may thus form what is virtually another battalion, and the tirailleur battalions may form a brigade if required. To each division of infantry is attached a brigade of field artillery, bearing a number corresponding to the division to which it belongs, and consisting of three 9-pounder and three 4-pounder batteries, each battery having eight guns. The total strength, including artillery and hospital train, on paper, of a division in which the regiments have three battalions is 15,924 men, of whom 11,400 are infantry combatants in front line; and of a division in which the regiments have four battalions, 20,348 men, of whom 15,360 again are infantry combatants in front line. A cavalry division consists of two brigades—the first formed by a regiment of dragoons and a regiment of lancers; the second, by a regiment of hussars and a regiment of Cossacks, and also of two horse artillery batteries. Including the batteries, a cavalry division numbers 4079 men, placing in the field 2499 sabres and twelve guns. A brigade of rifles comprises 3816 men, placing in the field 3040 bayonets.

The Grand Duke Nicholas has ordered the formation of a Bulgarian Legion, to be composed provisionally of six battalions of infantry, each of five companies, and of six sotnias (hundreds), or three squadrons of cavalry. The legion is divided into three brigades, each comprising two battalions and two squadrons. The whole is placed under the command of General Stoliff, who has had the organisation of these battalions since the commencement of the war. A part of the legion reached Ploesti last week, and the remainder are to arrive before the end of this month. At first they are to be employed only in the rear of the army, but as the sphere of operations widens they will take a more prominent part in the campaign, on account of the excellence of their organisation and the tactical merit of the officers who have command of them. The men are said to be already sufficiently familiarised with the Russian language to be able to understand the orders

issued to them, and by the time that Bulgaria is occupied many of them will be competent enough to assist in the formation of fresh battalions. Every day large numbers of Servians, Bulgarians, and Roumanians join the Russian army. None are allowed to remain with it who do not at once consent to be incorporated with the regular soldiery, for the Commander-in-Chief is determined not to have any volunteer irregulars hanging at his rear. As regards pay, the volunteers receive the same as the regular soldiers, and they likewise participate in the privileges enjoyed by the latter. Until now the Bulgarian battalions have been equipped by the Pan Slavist committee at Moscow; but although the Russian Government is willing that the maintenance of the Legion shall be partly or wholly borne by that society, it intends to take the equipment into its own hand. It is also clearly understood that the insurrectionary operations of these committees must be carried on outside the circle of the Russian army, preference being given to the districts in the rear of the Balkans. The Commander-in-Chief expects to be kept well informed as to the movements of the Pan Slavist agents, in order that he may give assistance when necessary, and prevent the organisers in Russia from exerting too much individual freedom. It is anticipated that some very important political results will be achieved by the Bulgarian Legion. On the army crossing the Danube the battalions will serve as the nucleus for future volunteers, who, it is predicted, will flock round the Russian flag in large numbers. The Legion thus enlarged, and representing the Christian population of Bulgaria, may play an important part in the future settlement of that province. To prevent it from being too local in its aspirations, and to Russianise the Bulgarians as much as possible while in the Czar's service, the cadres of the Legion are partly made up of regular Russian soldiers, who have a proportion of two to one of the volunteers. The Grand Duke Nicholas has bestowed upon the Bulgarian Legion a flag displaying the coat-of-arms of the former kingdom of Bulgaria, with the following inscription:—"Forward! with the help of God and the might of the renowned Czar of Russia, Alexander."

We have related the manner in which one of the most daring deeds ever recorded in the history of warfare was performed on the Lower Danube. This was the blowing-up of a Turkish monitor, on Saturday, the 28th ult., by the torpedo-launches under the command of Lieutenant Doubassoff. That young officer, whose portrait we now publish, belongs to the Russian Navy. He obtained his education in the Naval School, and afterwards in the Naval Academy at St. Petersburg. He is considered to be one of the promising officers of the Russian Navy. He was for some years at sea, during which time he went round the world. His last appointment was as chief officer on board the Imperial yacht Slavyanka, belonging to the Grand Duke Czarewitsch. We mentioned last week that both Lieutenant Doubassoff and Lieutenant Schestakoff have been decorated by the Grand Duke Nicholas with St. George's Cross, which is the highest order in Russia for military service.

The special correspondent of the *Standard* thus describes the small Roumanian town of Ploesti, the temporary headquarters of the Russian army:—"In this country the peculiarities of Bucharest appear in every town; the character of the peasant is that of the boyard; and in small places like this, wherein the Grand Duke has pitched his tent for the moment, oddities become more striking. Ploesti covers a great space of ground, and is approached through a characteristic landscape, divided between two zones. There is a zone of forest and a zone of plough land; look through the carriage window as often as you will the same picture lies in view. If the low-lying track be not edged by trees, most exquisitely green and tender of foliage, it will be running through an endless plain. Very far off, a pale blue line of mountains may sometimes suggest that the whole universe is not flat. At this time of year the level has charms of its own, reminding one of *valdt* lands in Cape Colony. Swathes of yellow colza bar it, and acres of wild strawberry in full blossom, and belts of iris round a marsh, break the eternal green. Here and there a white-clad peasant scratches at the earth with a wooden plough, to which, for the look of the thing, he has harnessed six bullocks. So shallow are the furrows that small strips of weedy ground escape between them, and tares wave in triumph behind the track of that guileless husbandman. But with no better preparation he will raise a crop that might make the prairie farmer jealous, and madden with despair our scientific agriculturists at home. Pity it is to see how narrow are the streaks of brown in that great sea of weeds, and how often the females of the household are helping at the plough. Those stalwart fellows who should have been aiding us with us here in the train, equipped at the price of their country's ruin, for a war which nobody wants, saving always those who hope to 'fish in troubled waters.'"

"The strategical reason which caused the Russian chiefs to make Ploesti their head-quarters is seen evident upon the map. All day long the trains of baggage and artillery come filing in by the road from Braila without a break. The horses—nearly all young—step well through the deep black soil; the men, dirty and unkempt, as are all troops upon campaign, have an admirable airy spirit and good humour. There are always officers waiting at the entrance of the town, who observe the waggons and men as they pass by. At four o'clock this afternoon General Nepokoitschitzky himself, the chief of the staff, did not disdain to undertake the duty. Motionless, upon a beautiful white horse, he watched the uninteresting procession for nearly two hours—uninteresting at least it seemed to me, waiting an audience with his Excellency. At intervals of the interminable train, the baggage guards passed by, a score of men marching with free step, though caked to the knees in mud. Then the General always pushed through the crowd, and whilst the men presented arms, he uttered a word or two. The reply always came in a short, sharp, startling cheer; the soldiers passed briskly on, and the General resumed his station. How many vehicles I saw pass, how many baggage guards I heard cheer, none but a 'calculating boy' could estimate, but the sum was one *à faire rêver*. Not to-day nor this week did the procession begin, nor will it end to-morrow. How are these innumerable horses to be fed in Bulgaria; how are these waggons to be dragged over Bulgarian roads? Each should and did carry a spare wheel behind; the wheel is missing already in one case, at least, out of ten; it has been needed and used before Roumania has been crossed."

"The town into which these vehicles are pouring is a little Bucharest—less wealthy, of course, perhaps dirtier, possibly more idle. The holes in the streets are deeper, and filled to the brim with mud, for rain is constant at Ploesti—whence the name. Very wide streets are bordered with stucco houses tumbling down, but not tumbling from age, for the greater part are new. On the lower floor dwells a tailor or a tobacconist; from the upper windows dark eyes peep round a blind, catch the stranger's glance, and modestly vanish. So, as you limp along the breakneck pavement, it happens at every house. There are, indeed, a certain number of shops devoted neither to smoke nor dress, but they are scarcely worth counting."

"Round Ploesti stand such pretty houses as I have

described in Bucharest—little gems of beauty and comfort. Here, of course, they are not so sumptuously adorned; but the villa of the Grand Duke is handsome. The old Roumanian hotel, almost extinct in the capital, may be found here, and is worth description. Along three sides of an immense courtyard run lofty galleries, covered in with glass. Upon these open the windows of the bed-rooms, tiny dens, in which no privacy is possible. You perceive that ladies are not expected to travel here. The staircases run to the gallery. In the courtyard stand a few acacias, a few oleanders, struggling towards the light, and a great number of those coloured glass globes which, mounted upon a pole, are more than equivalent in the Roumanian eye to flowers. I have seen a meadow thus adorned, in which the owner stood with rapt delight, as a devoted amateur might stand among his roses. Amongst the acacias and the oleanders people dine, weather permitting; but for rainy nights there is a pavilion along one side of the courtyard—a wooden building full of taste in shape and decoration, so bright of colour, so gracefully carved, that one is pleased to look at it. Then of an evening come the *Lauatorei*, or gipsy minstrels, another institution of the land. They play wild tunes and sing till midnight—always by ear—or else they seize a waltz—French or German—transform it, with notes new and strange, into a barbaric chaunt; and the public of Ploesti come to drink beer and listen."

In another letter, one of the Special Correspondents at Rustchuk says:—"Opposite Rustchuk, at a distance of about two miles across the Danube, the Roumanian village of Slobosia borders the steep bank of a creek or inlet, leading to an extensive swamp in its neighbourhood. Only the steeple of a Greek church marks its position, as its humble cottages are all hidden in a grove of fruit-trees. The level there is very nearly the same as here—that is to say, about twenty yards on the average above the ordinary water-line. Between the two places, divided by a narrow island in the middle, flows, some 1000 yards broad, the stately river, the main channel of which whirls its waters over a rocky stratum of hard limestone that supports the clay plateau of Rustchuk. Then follows another island, larger by far, covered with brushwood and pasture, which is separated from the Roumanian main land by the aforesaid creek and swamp. The whole valley, however, is at this time of the year entirely flooded, and only the topmost branches of the willow-trees wave above the water. Five hundred yards down the river to the left of Slobosia, and about two hundred yards from the bank, on the highest point of the ground, the Roumanians have constructed, since the Crimean War, a series of pretty strong intrenched lines, at which they are now actively working again. We see from here through the glass how the parapets rise daily higher and higher. This business is usually done at night, but they continue it also in the morning, evidently not heeding what the Turks may think of it. The latter, however, who, with a carelessness or want of pluck which nothing can excuse, neglected to cross over to the Roumanian side, when they could do so, in order to secure for their fortresses the necessary *têtes de pont*, now find out at the instigation of European counsellors that the Roumanians display a little too much impertinence in their preparations. They appear to be quite indignant of late, and have decided in council on disturbing the workmen and destroying the intrenchments by the fire of the heavy cannons from our bastions on the river side. The batteries called forth to act are five in number, more or less distant from each other. They are not connected by curtains, but are isolated on the border of our plateau, the steep slopes of which are washed by the Danube. Some thirty guns, among them five 15-centimeter breechloaders of cast steel, bronze pieces fashioned after the Krupp system, Paixhan's long muzzle-loaders of various calibre, and even mortars, are to open, perhaps to-morrow, their fire on the Roumanian earthworks. To that effect the Turks are busily clearing the Danube of all vessels. The cannonade cannot but lead to the destruction of Slobosia, and subsequently, of course, of Giurgevo, which is entirely dominated and threatened by one of our outworks. As to the enemy's intrenchments, however, no appreciable result can be obtained at such a considerable distance, because the damage done in the daytime can easily be repaired at night, when all precision in firing is out of the question. The powder will therefore be wasted. On the other hand, moreover, as we are not aware yet if the Roumanians have their heavy metal in position, they will not hesitate to answer the challenge; and then every shot must strike our city and sweep through dozens of the miserably-built houses at once. Innocent persons, women and children, are of course exposed to be killed."

One of our Artists has been with the Egyptians in Bulgaria, and writes as follows:—"The heights of Cape Galata, near Varna, now studded over with the white tents of the Egyptian contingent, who have come to assist the Osmanlis in the present struggle, form a delightful contrast to the verdure of the surrounding scenery; and the artistic eye is, on a closer acquaintance, arrested at every turn by the picturesqueness of the black soldiery. These are a fine, hale, kindly set of fellows, who take good-naturedly to hard work, and appreciate with true philosophy the meagre comforts of camp life. Only give him a good supply of cigarettes and an occasional draught of sharrab, your Egyptian will work like a horse through the hottest hours of a hot day. There is, indeed, something almost absurd, to a Northerner, in the way in which they will wrap their huge capuchined cloaks round them at times when any one of us would gladly divest himself of coat and waistcoat. The sketches I send were taken during a flying visit I paid the other day to their encampment. The rapid and energetic way in which they dig trenches, mount guns, and go in generally for the harder work of military life, is something remarkable. One of the sketches I send is of the construction of a battery commanding the Black Sea. Another is of a snug corner in camp at supper time, a scene which would have gladdened the heart of Rembrandt with its broad effects of light and shade, and would have delighted Salvador Rosa with its grim picturesqueness. I also send some miscellaneous sketches, one of a sentry outside the Commandant's headquarters, and one of a sacker, or water-carrier, who goes his rounds shouting out the commodity of his calling, and satisfying the wants of thirsty troops in a very innocent way, that would gain the high approval of our old friend George Cruikshank and the members of the Temperance League."

The Jews resident at Constantinople are generally disposed to be content with the Sultan's rule, as they have mostly emigrated from Spain to Turkey, and in both those countries the Mohammedan Power was less intolerant of their national religion than the Christian Governments of Europe have till lately been. Russia and her allies, the States of Roumania and Servia, have treated the Jews with extreme harshness and injustice; and the consequence is that, nearly everywhere in the East and South of Europe, the Jews take the side of the Turks in the present war. They have no pretensions, like the Greeks and the Slavs, to revive or set up an independent monarchy amidst the ruins of the Ottoman Empire. They hold a very large amount of Turkish bonds or consolidated stock, and they have recently obtained political enfranchisement under the new Turkish Constitution, with seats in the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. For these reasons, probably, more than ten thousand Jews of Constantinople lately joined in the

solemn offering of prayers for the success of the Turkish arms in the impending conflict against those of Russia. The service in their principal synagogue at Balata, on the banks of the Golden Horn, was attended by Mohammed Damad Pasha, Grand Master of Artillery and a very influential member of the Sultan's family, accompanied by several Turkish officials of high rank, and Ulemas, or Mussulman Doctors of Divinity. We give an illustration of the scene at this religious celebration, with Mohammed Damad Pasha seated in an arm-chair placed on a small carpet in the middle, and other distinguished Turks standing beside him. The officiating Jewish clergy have opened the Ark and have taken out the Books of the Law, to be read from the pulpit in the midst of the congregation. The ceremony was performed with great pomp; and the vestments of the clergy, the architectural decorations, the burning lights, and the crystal lustres of the candelabra had a splendid effect. The building, which was erected in 1732, is of Byzantine architecture, with two domes and eight massive pillars internally; the ceiling is of finely carved wood. The doors of the ark, made of walnut-wood and ornamented with mother-of-pearl, are considered very handsome. Our illustration is from a Sketch by one of our Correspondents at the Turkish capital.

ROYAL INSTITUTION LECTURES.

ISOLATION OF THE ALKALINE METALS.

Professor Dewar, in his second lecture on the Chemical Philosophy of Davy, given on Tuesday, May 29, resumed his account of the long-continued elaborate researches whereby the great philosopher conclusively demonstrated that, as an electric current always decomposes a compound body, such as water or a salt, so also every chemical action, however feeble, generates an electric current. This led him to hope that the new mode of analysis might lead to the discovery of the true elements of various bodies, if the materials acted on were sufficiently concentrated and the electricity adequately exalted. Having repeated several of Davy's most striking experiments, Professor Dewar proceeded to describe and illustrate the way in which his hopes were realised, and how the fixed alkalis, potash and soda, were decomposed by the action of the great voltaic battery at the Royal Institution in October, 1807. Davy's first attempts made on aqueous solutions of potash failed. The water only was acted on, and the gases oxygen and hydrogen were disengaged with much heat and violent effervescence. He next fused potash and applied the electric current to the liquid, producing intense light from a column of flame; aeriform globules, which inflamed in the atmosphere, rising from the potash. After failing in various endeavours to collect this combustible matter, he at length succeeded by making the potash a conductor of electricity by slightly moistening it. When such a piece of potash, placed on an insulated disk of platinum, was connected with the negative pole of a powerful battery, and a platinum wire, communicating with the positive side, was brought into contact with the upper side of the alkali a vivid action began. The potash fused at both points of electrification, and violent effervescence took place at the upper surface, due to the evolution of oxygen gas. At the lower or negative surface no gas was liberated, but small globules having a high metallic lustre appeared, some of which immediately burst with explosion, while others remained merely tarnished, and soon after were covered with a white film. These globules were a new metal, which Davy named potassium. Numerous experiments proved to him that he had attained his object, and a few days after he obtained sodium, another new metal, from soda in a similar manner; but the decomposition required greater intensity of electrical action. After illustrating these discoveries by experiments, Professor Dewar explained the method of obtaining the new metals more easily in the form of amalgams, as suggested by Berzelius; and in this way he produced some lithium and potassium, the mercury employed being driven off by distillation. Finally, he exhibited specimens of the metals so produced, the potassium having a silvery white appearance, the colour of sodium being somewhat yellowish.

INVISIBLE HEAT RAYS.

Professor Tyndall, in his eighth and concluding lecture, on Thursday, May 31, resumed his experimental illustrations of the phenomena of radiant heat, and showed that metals are worse radiators and absorbers of heat than other bodies. Producing a teapot and cosy, he explained that the heat was preserved by the bad radiation of the teapot and the bad conduction of the cosy; but added that a closely-fitting cosy would rather promote than diminish the radiation, and have a precisely opposite effect. He also introduced Faraday's old experiment showing the protective action of scraps of gilt paper. When such were fixed on a sheet of paper, the colour of the back (coated with iodide of mercury) was changed by heat applied to the upper surface, except where the gilt paper was placed. He next showed that a source of light emits and absorbs rays of a certain refrangibility or colour. The yellow in the spectrum of the electric lamp was replaced by a black line through absorption when the vapour of sodium was introduced into the flame. Then, referring to a fine spectrum, the Professor said that there were ultra-violet rays and ultra-red rays, invisible to our ordinary vision—the former having chemical power, the latter being most powerful in regard to heat, although very much absorbed by the aqueous vapour in our atmosphere. He then explained and illustrated the way in which, after much labour, he eventually succeeded in filtering, as it were, the composite radiation of the electric light, by stopping the visible rays and allowing only the invisible rays free transmission; and with these latter rays, concentrated into a focus by a plano-convex lens, he ignited paper and zinc, and caused the combustion of carbon in oxygen with vivid scintillations. He also explained how, by a most ingenious arrangement, platinised platinum foil in a vacuum may be raised to a white-heat by this focus, and stated that on looking at this white-hot platinum through a prism of bisulphide of carbon a rich and complete spectrum had been obtained, all the colours being extracted from an invisible focus. In concluding, the Professor referred to the sun as the great source of all our heat. In vegetation it decomposes carbonic acid and water, and causes the aggregation of carbon and hydrogen in the woody fibre. Combustion is the reverse of this process of reduction, all the energy derived from the sun reappearing as heat when the plant is burnt. This, then, is the source of all our power, vegetable and animal, and from it all our coal is derived. For our increased knowledge of the phenomena of heat and the principles therein involved we are greatly indebted to the laborious researches of Mayer and Joule.

HISTORY OF EDUCATION.

Mr. Oscar Browning, of King's College, Cambridge, began his discourse at the evening meeting on Friday, June 1, with remarks on our great national advantages in regard to education—wealthy endowments and able teachers—only requiring stimulation to more abundant life. After that in the family, he said that the earliest instruction—by priests and prophets and the schools of Judea and Egypt—was ecclesiastical, and the "wisdom of the Egyptians" was a source

of enlightenment to all surrounding nations. In Greece education became secular. Two subjects were studied—music and gymnastics; the first comprising all mental, the second all bodily, training. Plato describes the Athenian palaestra—Socrates surrounded by ready listeners and ardent disciples; and Plato is the author of the first systematic treatise on education. Amongst the Romans, Quintilian taught how to fit a man to perform justly, wisely, and magnanimously all the offices, both public and private, of peace and war. "Can we," said Mr. Browning, "produce anything by education, except by combining, blending, and modifying the self-culture of the Greek with the self-sacrifice of the Roman?" He then contrasted the education of the cloister and the castle in the Middle Ages. The young monk was subjected to harsh discipline, his studies being the "trivium" (grammar, dialectics, and rhetoric) and the "quadrivium" (music, arithmetic, geometry, and astronomy)—a seven-years' course which profoundly affected our modern education; while the seven knightly accomplishments were to ride, to swim, to shoot with the bow, to box, to hawk, to play at chess, and to make verses (not in Latin) with chivalrous devotion to women. Both forms disappeared before the Renaissance and the Reformation, the precursors of which were the "Brethren of the Common Life," who did immense service by devoting themselves to the education of children in the northern Netherlands. Erasmus merely aimed at gradually forming the child into a good Greek and Latin scholar and a pious man; but Luther brought the schoolmaster into the cottage, and founded the system which is the chief honour and strength of modern Germany. Melancthon also wrote school-books, and even introduced physical science. John Sturm, of Strasburg, the friend of Ascham, the first great head-schoolmaster, was also an able diplomatist and representative of the Protestant cause. In 1576 his school numbered thousands of pupils, and the effects of his universal influence remained in our own public schools till the present century. John Amos Comenius, a poor Moravian, was quite the reverse to Sturm. His life was spent in wandering and obscurity; but his ideas were accepted by advanced thinkers such as Milton, and his practical system foreshadowed the education of the future: he taught things as well as words. His course included science, arts, and handicrafts; and in his kindness and gentleness he was the forerunner of Pestalozzi. The Catholics were stirred up by the Protestant activity, and Ignatius Loyola's programme for education by the Jesuits was highly successful. Their defects, pointed out by Montaigne, were over-estimating the intellect, rejecting morality, and depreciating useful knowledge. The wise system recommended by Locke was next noticed, and the large course set forth by Milton commented on. At the Port Royal, the greatest men of France devoted their highest gifts to promote education, but their light was quenched by Jesuit jealousy. In 1762 an astounding effect was produced by the publication of Rousseau's "Emile," the main principle of which was to overturn all other systems and to return to a state of nature. Restraint and punishment were to be abolished; "Do no one harm" was to be the chief moral principle; and teaching was to be chiefly by observation and experience, the use of books being deferred till late. In concluding, Mr. Browning glanced at the method of Basedow, and the opinions of Richter, Goethe, Herbert Spencer, and Alexander Bain on this all important subject.

DISCOVERIES AT MYCENÆ.

Mr. Charles T. Newton, M.A.C.B., gave his first lecture on the Recent Discoveries at Mycenæ on Saturday last, the 2nd inst. After quoting Strabo's statement, in the first century of our era, that there were no remains of Mycenæ, he read a translation of a passage, written by Pausanias in the second century, describing the Lions Gate, the treasuries, and the five tombs of Agamemnon, supposed by Dr. Schliemann to be those which he discovered on the Acropolis. Referring to a map, Mr. Newton showed that Mycenæ is placed upon a height between two mountains bordering on the Argive plain on the east, thus corresponding with Homer's description. Its military position was very commanding, and its fortress, which lies between two torrents, is rather more than 1000 ft. long, and the breadth about half. The entire circuit of the walls, from 15 ft. to 20 ft. high, is nearly all preserved; the masonry is of the ancient kind termed Cyclopean, the material being a breccia; some of the blocks are 18 ft. long. The chief gate, through which the Acropolis is entered, at the north-west angle of the wall, is approached by a passage 50 ft. long and 50 ft. wide, which may have served as a place for arms or business. Over the massive doorway were sculptured two lions standing on their hind legs, with a pillar between them. There was also another fortified gate, but no flanking towers. As also at Tiryns, there are remains of a subterranean passage. Immediately south of the great gateway Dr. Schliemann found the tombs with their interesting relics. Along the crest of a ridge to the north is a rock which probably marks the line of an ancient wall and road leading from the Gate of Lions to a bridge over the stream in the ravine, remains of which still exist. Whether there was once a lower town, perhaps that termed by Homer "Mycenæ, the wide-streets," or "spacious," has not been ascertained; but this lower ground contains the singular buildings termed treasuries by Pausanias and others. That of Atreus, which is entirely subterranean, was approached through the slope of the hill by a passage 20 ft. wide; fragments of columns of its gateway are in the British Museum. After giving details of the interesting structure, such as the discovery of square bronze nails which had been driven into the walls, probably to fasten bronze plates, Mr. Newton expressed his opinion that these subterranean buildings were really tombs, which may have served also as treasuries in emergencies, as temples did in later times. He then briefly reviewed the mythic history of Argos, noticing the story of Io, the coming of Danaos, who gave his name to the Greeks, the foundation of Mycenæ by Perseus, the tragic history of the Pelopides, the reign and murder of Agamemnon, the appearance of Mycenæans at Thermopylæ and Plataeæ, and the utter destruction of the city by the jealous Argives, B.C. 468. Mr. Newton thinks that we may assume that all the monuments of Mycenæ were constructed before the fall of the Pelopid dynasty, certainly before the return of the Heraclids, which took place, according to the received chronology, B.C. 1048. The lecture was illustrated by pictures and photographs, with some beautiful drawings by Mr. Simpson, of the *Illustrated London News*.

Mr. C. T. Newton's lecture this day, on the Recent Discoveries at Mycenæ, will close the season.

On Monday the Duke of Cambridge, attended by the Horse Guards staff, visited Aldershot, and witnessed a sham fight by the troops. The division represented a force advancing by Frimley and North Camp Station in pursuit of an enemy retiring over Aldershot-common and Beacon-hill. The skeleton force representing the enemy was commanded by Colonel Davis, 20th Regiment. It acted as the rearguard of a retreating force, consisting of two infantry brigades, two cavalry regiments, and three batteries.

THE BLOCKADE OF WHYDAH.

The port of Whydah, belonging to the negro kingdom of Dahomey, on the West Coast of Africa, is still blockaded, as it has been during several months past, by some vessels of the British naval squadron employed along that coast. No satisfaction has yet been offered by Gelele, the King of Dahomey, for the injuries done to the persons and property of English and other European traders or visitors to the shore over which he claims to reign. The newly-appointed commander of the squadron, Commodore Sullivan, C.B., has now arrived from the Cape, with instructions to open fresh negotiations, and to ascertain whether Gelele is ready to comply with the demands of the British and French Governments if the blockade should be withdrawn. Our illustration of a scene in the roadstead off Whydah is from a sketch by Mr. N. Jay, representing the screw-steamer Africa, on the morning of March 18, sending the mails for the squadron on board H.M. Sirius; the other steamer is a French ship. Whydah is the only seaport of Dahomey, and is situated fifty or sixty miles from Abomey, the capital of that kingdom. Abomey itself is a town somewhat resembling Coomassie, the famous metropolis of Ashantee; but it is smaller, and the palaces and tombs of the first Kings of Dahomey occupy three-fourths of the area. The wall is about twenty feet high, surrounded by a broad and deep dry ditch, the receptacle for the trunks of the decapitated victims of "the customs," and on the outer edge of the ditch is a very high and thick hedge of thorns, impassable to man or beast. Lying in all directions around Abomey are other palaces and their peculiar environment of houses, which constitute the capital of Dahomey. The King has several large cannon, mostly of Portuguese manufacture, for the most part dangerously rusted. Of the art of gunnery the Dahomey soldiers know nothing. Many of the caboccers are armed with Snider rifles; but the weapon most in vogue is the Tower musket. This is loaded almost to bursting with bullets, or, failing these, with stones, broken iron pots, crockery, or, in short, anything. They fire from the hip, and both men and Amazons are but very indifferent marksmen. As every man is bound to serve as a soldier if called upon to do so, in an emergency Gelele could perhaps bring 80,000 troops, male and female, into the field. But, except near the capital and in a few open spots near Whydah and Savi, the country is too thickly covered with forest to permit much manœuvring with so large a body. Their general method of fighting is to steal upon the enemy in the night-time, and just before dawn, amidst terrific yells and howlings, to startle him out of his last sleep, when—after the first onset, wherein a dreadful butchery prevails—all try to take as many prisoners as possible, to make as fine a show as circumstances will permit at the ensuing "customs." The King is surrounded by his Amazons, but ere the heat of the fray begins retires to the rear with his own life guard of warrior-women. We must not, however, fall into the error of supposing that because Gelele is a semi-civilised savage, whose whole trade consists of slave-dealing and cutting off men's heads, we shall have an easy task if we declare war against him. It is considered, indeed, that something can be done from Lagos, and that a way out of the difficulty has been found, thanks to the perseverance shown by Mr. Dumaresq in his late endeavours to find the new and hitherto unknown road to the interior of Dahomey. By the system of lagoons between Lagos and the Whemi River, and afterwards by that river itself, a number of gun-boats can arrive within seventeen miles of Abomey. The country between Dugbah and Abomey is fine and open, and free from swamps. It might easily be crossed by a party landed from the squadron, and the natives of the Whemi country, to say nothing of the tribes from the Denham Waters and the Egba and Yoruba countries, who live in daily dread of the Dahomians, are most eager for an opportunity to revenge the wrongs they have suffered for many years, by joining in an expedition to capture Abomey.

THE LATE SIR JAMES SIMPSON.

We give an illustration of the scene at Edinburgh when the bronze statue of the late eminent surgeon, Professor Sir James Simpson, Bart., recently erected on the terrace near the west end of West Princes'-street Gardens, was unveiled by Lady Galloway in presence of a large assemblage of people. The statue was designed by Mr. W. Brodie, R.S.A., and cast in bronze by Messrs. Macfield and Co., Chelsea. It represents the Professor in a sitting posture, as if in the act of addressing his students. The face is turned towards the left shoulder. The right hand supports one side of a large book that rests on the knees, while the left fingers the pages, as if referring to them for proof of what is being expounded. The professorial robe and hood are turned to account in securing a telling arrangement of drapery. Modelled on the scale of a twelve foot figure, the statue is eight feet high; and in its general effect animation is happily combined with massive repose. It is placed on a pedestal of freestone from Fairlie Quarry, near Hawick, executed by Mr. Thomas McEwen from a design by the sculptor.

For the inauguration ceremony preparations had been made by the erection of two covered galleries vis-à-vis, with a low dais, in the space between the statue and the line of Princes'-street. To these subscribers and others were admitted by ticket. The Earl of Galloway, Lord High Commissioner, was accompanied by Lady Galloway, the Ladies Stewart, and several members of his suite. After the Countess had been conducted to her place by the Lord Provost and presented by Miss Brodie with a handsome bouquet, the proceedings were opened with prayer by Professor Duns. Dr. Alexander Wood, in the name of the Memorial Committee, proceeded to hand over the statue to the Lord Provost, as representing the City Corporation. After he had spoken, the statue was unveiled by Lady Galloway, amid the cheers of the assemblage. Dr. Wood, having formally intrusted the monument to the safe keeping of the civic authorities, concluded by stating that the residue of the subscription of £5000, after placing a bust in Westminster Abbey, was to be appropriated in aid of the erection of a new Maternity Hospital. The Lord Provost, in a few sentences, accepted the trust on behalf of the Corporation. Sir Walter Simpson proposed a vote of thanks to his Lordship and the magistrates for undertaking the care of the monument. Lord Kintore proposed that thanks be given to Lady Galloway, and the ceremony was brought to a close. Immediately after the unveiling, wreaths of flowers were placed upon the base of the pedestal by Miss Eva Simpson (daughter of Sir James), and some other young ladies. This is the pretty performance shown in our illustration of the proceedings upon the occasion.

A meeting was held at North Shields on Monday night—the Mayor of Tynemouth, Alderman Green, in the chair—upon the subject of international arbitration. Resolutions were carried expressing a hope that the nations would adopt arbitration as a means of settling their differences, in preference to resorting to the costly and barbarous method of war.



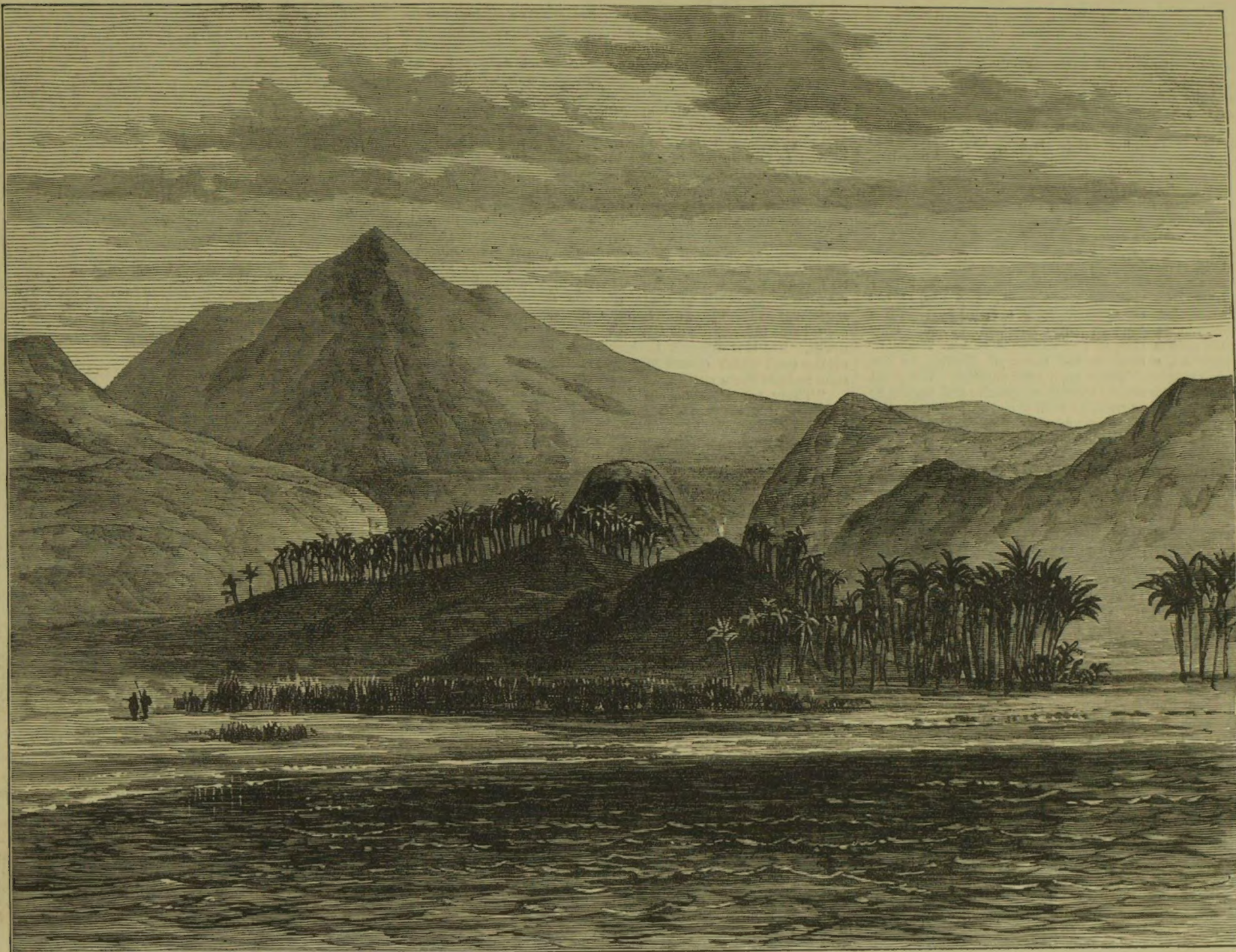
THE BLOCKADE OF WHYDAH: MAIL STEAMER AFRICA SENDING MAILS TO H.M.S. SIRIUS.



UNVEILING THE STATUE OF SIR JAMES SIMPSON AT EDINBURGH.



COUNTING HER CONQUESTS.
BY E. F. BREWSTALL.



THE LAND OF MIDIAN, FROM THE GULF OF AKABA.



PALM GROVE ON THE COAST OF MIDIAN.

THE LAND OF MIDIAN.

A territory which has usually been identified with the ancient Midian, familiar by name from the historical chapters of the Old Testament, has lately come once more under general notice. It forms part of the dominions of the Khedive of Egypt, but is situated on the borders of the Syrian and Arabian deserts, on the eastern, or rather north-eastern, shores of the Red Sea. The Gulf of Akaba and the Gulf of Suez are the two branches or head inlets which terminate the Red Sea, towards the junction of the Continents of Asia and Africa, on each side of the peninsula of Sinai, which lies between those two gulfs. On the east coast of the Gulf of Akaba lies the reputed land of Midian, and for years past that country has been supposed to teem with mineral wealth. The Khedive, whose viceregal rule extends to Midian, has long had a desire to put rumour to the test, and he lately asked Captain Burton to make a visit of inspection. A Government frigate was placed at his disposal; a military escort was given him, as turbulent tribes make travel in Arabia no holiday task; a secretary, and an able mining engineer in the service of the Khedive—M. George Marie—were attached to the expedition. The party left Suez on March 21 last, and on April 2 they arrived at Moilah, on the east coast of the Red Sea, at the entrance of the Gulf of Akaba. It is a small port, with a tolerable anchorage, and an Egyptian garrison. Thence they took boat to Aiyunah Bay, at the entrance of the Wady, or Valley of Aiyunah, a little to the north of Moilah, on the eastern side of the gulf. These wadys are curious. The coast is divided from the interior by a range of granite and porphyry mountains running about parallel with the sea; but water has worn its way as usual, and these gorges, each with its mountain torrent, occur at frequent intervals. They are barren, rocky places, with no possibility of much culture, and yet they all bear signs of abundant population in times gone by. Large towns, built not of mud, as Arab towns so often are, but of solid masonry such as the Romans used, roads cut in the rock, aqueducts five miles long, remains of massive fortresses, artificial lakes—all these signs of wealth and population are reported by Captain Burton. According to him the reason of it all is not far to seek. The rock is full of mineral wealth. Gold and silver were found by this party, and the former seems to exist in quantity sufficient to repay the labour of acquisition. Quartz and chlorites occur, with gold in them, just as they are found in the gold districts of South America. The party tested both the rock by crushing and the sands of the streams by sifting, and in each case with good result. Tin and antimony they also discovered, and they had evidence of the existence of turquoise mines. Each ruined town had its mining works; dams for the washing of sand and crushed rock were frequently seen; scorias lies about near ancient furnaces; in short, the traces are numerous of a busy mining population in a country which seems to be full of mineral wealth. From Makná (Mugna of the maps), the capital of the Land of Midian, up to Akaba, at the head of the Gulf, Captain Burton reports the country as auriferous, and he believes the district southwards as far as Gebel Hassani—a mountain well known to geographers—to possess the same character. He even goes so far as to say he has brought back to life an ancient California. The correctness of this assertion remains to be proved. But it must be received as the statement of a careful, experienced traveller after a personal survey of the district, and it is supported by the opinion of M. Marie, a skilful mining engineer. Captain Burton has kept elaborate notes, and he maintains that they will bear out his golden views of the Land of Midian. In any case, they will be interesting, as the country is utterly unknown; even the map has yet to be made. The Khedive, of course, is much interested in the complete success of this expedition, and is now very desirous to give practical effect to it. He has asked the Foreign Office to allow Captain Burton to return next winter to assist him in the development of his new gold-fields.

For the important news of these discoveries, startling as it may be, our readers will have been somewhat prepared by the late Dr. Charles Beke's predictions, resulting from his Biblical researches during a period of half a century, but ultimately confirmed by his discoveries in 1874 of Aiyunah, Midian, and other places in the Gulf of Akaba, connected with the exodus of the Israelites, and, finally, by that of the "true Mount Sinai," in Arabia, of which we published views in the *Illustrated London News* of April 18, 1874, and respecting which so much controversy took place at the time.

We are indebted to Mrs. Beke for the sketches now published, which are by Mr. John Milne, F.G.S., who accompanied Dr. Beke on his expedition to the Gulf of Akaba in 1874, and whose geological notes of their journey were published in the *Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society* for February, 1875.

Writing from Akaba, Jan. 28, 1874, Dr. Beke says:—"His Highness the Khedive having been pleased to place the Egyptian steamer Erin at my disposal for the conveyance of myself and party to the head of the Gulf of Akaba, we left Suez . . . Jan. 18 and arrived at . . . On our return into the Gulf, as the tempest had not entirely abated, we anchored on the 24th close to the shore at Magna, or Midian, in 28 deg. 23 min. N. lat., behind a point of land and a reef, which, though not a fit anchorage for a large vessel, afforded shelter to the little Erin, though we lost here one of our anchors. At Midian, . . . which afforded us an opportunity of going on shore and inspecting the place, a camping-ground of the Benn Ughba Arabs, numbering about 400 souls. The Sheikh, with the main body of the tribe, was away in the interior, a few persons only remaining here to attend to the fructification of their numerous date palms—it is no exaggeration to estimate them at 1000 or more—growing near the beach and along a valley coming from the east, in which there is a perennial stream of water. With the date-trees we saw also several dóm palms, lime, nebbuk, and fig trees; and there were even a few patches of barley carefully protected by hedges of palm-leaves.

"We were on the point of returning to the ship when we were informed of the existence in the vicinity of a holy spot, where it is said the prophet Moses prayed, and over which a 'mosque' had been erected. This was stated to be at one hour's distance from the shore; and as, with these people's vague estimate of distances, it might possibly be much more, I did not feel myself competent to go so far on foot. Mr. Milne walked inland with a servant and a native guide. He proceeded eastward up the valley, along the side of the palm-grove, gradually ascending over a sandstone slope in places worn into hummocks by the water, which during the rainy season finds its way down to the sea, and when about half a mile from the coast he came to a small stream some 3 ft. wide, running in a channel which it had cut in the solid rock. At the point where he struck the stream the water runs prettily over the inclined but irregular surface of the rock, with a fall, or succession of falls, of about 12 ft. in all, winding and losing itself among the palm-trees. The surface of the rock, which is sandstone, in places merging into a conglomerate of granite, diorite, and quartz, in stones some as large as cocoa-nuts, cemented by coarse sand, is here quite clear, so that one walks upon the bare rocks; but at a couple of hundred yards further up the valley the rock is covered with sand, which appears to

be making rapid inroads. So great, indeed, is its encroachment on the date plantations that the Arabs have made hedges round these to protect them from the sand, which hedges, however, are being overwhelmed, and others have consequently to be erected further in.

"On reaching the end of the palm-groves a mound is seen half as high as the tops of the trees, with numerous blocks of white stone lying among the sand, and beyond this there is a good view further up the valley, along which date palms are seen growing in patches. There are also a few dóm palms, one noticeable overhanging the white stones.

"These remains, which are at the utmost one mile from the beach, were found to consist of blocks of alabaster, so white and pure as at first sight to be mistaken for marble, and only proved to be sulphate of lime by scratching it with a knife, and by its non-effervescence with muriatic acid. The blocks are each about three feet long and one foot six inches square, and appear to have been worked with a tool, though the edges are now much rounded by the weather. One of them seems to form a portion of a column. Together with the blocks of alabaster are some of granite, likewise much weathered. As far as a brief and hasty inspection would allow an opinion to be formed, these stones appear to lie in two parallel ranges, ranging from north to south, the one within the other, the south end of the inner one being semicircular, and there even seem to be indications of a third range of stones further to the north. But it is difficult to speak with certainty on account of the sand which covers these stones in part, and threatens soon to hide them entirely.

"There are several mounds of sand round about, which may probably contain other remains. This most interesting spot, which requires to be more closely examined, is especially important to me, because I now see that here, at Midian, and not at Aiyunah, must have been the 'Encampment by the Red Sea' of the Israelites.

"Its proximity (half a day's journey) to Magharo Sho'eib, or Jethro's Cave, which I identify with the Elim of the Exodus, and the fact that the stream of running water must have some of its sources at or near that spot, explain why it should not have been mentioned in Exodus xv. 27, xvi. 1, as a separate station, much more satisfactorily than I attempted in page thirty-eight of my pamphlet, 'Mount Sinai a Volcano,' to explain the apparent discrepancy in the two statements of Scripture. The 'Encampment by the Red Sea' of the Israelites, was simply of that at Elim, with its 'twelve wells of water and three score and ten palm-trees,' the two together stretching down the valley, with its living water, from Magharo Sho'eib, or 'Jethro's Cave,' to this 'praying place of Moses' at Midian . . . all serve to show that there is sufficient reason for my hypothesis that this, the Gulf of Akaba, and not the Gulf of Suez, is the Red Sea through which the Israelites passed in the flight from Pharaoh, King of Mizraim."

With respect to Captain Burton's discoveries of gold and precious stones in this country, Dr. Beke wrote in March, 1872:—"As, however, whatever knowledge we possess of Ophir is derived from the Hebrew Scriptures alone, we are not warranted in seeking for it anywhere except where, from a comparison of the various passages in those Scriptures, we find it to be placed by them. And the mention of Ophir in conjunction with the Arabian countries of Havilah and Sheba ought to be conclusive that Ophir itself was in Arabia likewise. Taking this for granted, it shall now be shown how intelligible the whole history of the Tyro-Israelitish trade with the land of Ophir becomes. From 1 Kings ix. 26—28, we learn that King Solomon, having obtained a footing on the shores of the Yam-Suph (Red Sea), in the land of Edom—that is to say, the Gulf of Akaba—opened a trade by sea with Ophir, at the instigation of, and in conjunction with, Hiram, King of Tyre. The practical effect of this joint maritime enterprise was similar to that of the Portuguese in the fifteenth and following centuries. As the modern nation found a way to India by sea round the Cape of Good Hope, and so diverted the commerce of the further East from the overland route through the Levant, so did the Tyro-Israelites open a maritime trade by the way of the Straits of Babelmandel with the countries in Eastern and Southern Arabia, with which they had previously traded overland. As soon, however, as the fleet reached Ophir, the Queen of the adjoining country of Sheba, having become acquainted with the fame of Solomon (1 Kings x. 1), undertook in person an overland journey to his court, taking with her no less than 120 talents of gold—nearly equal to one third of the total quantity (420 talents) brought home by the joint fleet—and of spices very great store, and precious stones: there came no more such abundance of spices as those which the Queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon' (1 Kings x. 10). The avowed object of this lady's visit to the wise King of Israel was 'to prove him with hard questions' (1 Kings x. 1); but it is not impossible that, like the Chinese of modern times when the Russians first visited them by sea, the Sovereign of Sheba and her people were averse to this opening of a new trade in that direction, preferring the continuance of the ancient overland route, which could be more easily kept under native control; and that she brought with her such an abundance of the rich produce of India and Africa by the old road, in order to show how unnecessary the new one was. Be that as it may, this maritime route to Ophir and Sheba did not last long. . . . Under any circumstances, the whole duration of this Red Sea commerce did not exceed two centuries and a half."

The position of Ophir is discussed by Dr. Beke in "Origines Biblicæ," pp. 112—116, and "The Source of the Nile," pp. 60—65, and elsewhere. In conclusion, should the discoveries of Captain Burton be verified, as can hardly be doubted, the Khedive will indeed have cause for congratulation, that, through his usual courtesy and generous assistance to Dr. Beke and Captain Burton, and, indeed, to all travellers bent on scientific exploration and research, this mine of wealth has so opportunely resulted when so greatly needed.

In accordance with annual custom, about thirty gentlemen, being mostly members of the Epping Forest Fund, visited the chief points of interest in the forest on Saturday last.

It appears from the forty-third report of the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland that during last year the comparatively new system of results' fees led to a contribution from the rates in sixty-nine poor law unions of £30,499, and this contribution involved a payment of double that sum from the Parliamentary grant, or a total of £91,499 in results to the teachers of the contributory unions. In addition to this expenditure, in 2698 of the 3272 schools, in non-contributory unions the conditions entitling the teachers to contingent results' fees were fulfilled, and £22,357 was so expended. The Commissioners say of these arrangements that their influence in stimulating local effort in support of the schools is manifested by the fact that in the schools of those non-contributory unions the local subscriptions increased from £7582 in 1875 to £12,486 in 1876, and the school pence of the pupils from £23,978 in 1875 to £34,984 in 1876, or a total increase in local aid of £15,909. The total results' money paid from the Imperial Exchequer was, within the financial year, £108,339, to which may be added £30,499 from the unions, or a total augmentation of teachers' salaries to the amount of £138,839.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

SIR H. PELLY, BART.

Sir Henry Carstairs Pelly, third Baronet, of Upton, Essex, and of Warnham Court, Sussex, J.P. and D.L., M.P. for Huntingdonshire, died from a sunstroke he received while riding in Hyde Park, on the 4th inst. He was born April 23, 1844, the eldest son of Sir John Henry Pelly, Bart., by Johanna Jane, his wife, youngest daughter of the late John Carstairs, Esq., of Stratford-green, Essex, and Woodhurst, Hunts, and succeeded to the baronetcy at his father's death, Dec. 20, 1864. Sir Henry received his education at Harrow, and joined the 2nd Dragoons in 1865, from which he exchanged into the 2nd Life Guards in 1867. He was Aide-de-Camp to the Duke of Abercorn, K.G., during his first tenure of the Viceroyalty of Ireland, and retired from the Army in 1873. He sat in Parliament for the county of Huntingdon, in the Conservative interest, from February, 1874, till his demise. He married, Nov. 27, 1872, Lillian Harriet, second daughter of Lord Elcho, and leaves two daughters, Annie Evelyn and Constance Lillian. The title devolves on his half-brother, now Sir Harold Pelly, fourth Baronet, who was born in 1863.

SIR W. L. GRIFFIES-WILLIAMS, BART.

Sir Watkin Lewis Griffies-Williams, Bart., of Llwyny-Wormwood, Carmarthenshire, died on the 23rd ult. He was born in 1800, the fourth son of Sir George Griffies-Williams, first Baronet, by Anna Margaretta, his second wife, daughter of Herbert Evans, Esq., of Highmead, in the county of Cardigan, and succeeded to the baronetcy in 1870 on the death of his brother, the Rev. Sir Erasmus Henry Griffies-Williams, Bart. Sir Watkin entered the Indian Army in 1819, and attained the rank of General in 1871. He served during the Burmese War, 1824-6, at the siege and storming of Punnallah and capture of Munnohur, 1844-5, and in the second Burmese War, 1852. He was never married, and is consequently succeeded by his only surviving brother, now the Rev. Sir David Herbert Thackeray Griffies-Williams, fourth Baronet, Rector of Penbry and Vicar of Llandeveisant, and of Llanvihangel Aberbythic, in the county of Carmarthen.

THE BISHOP OF SODOR AND MAN.

The Hon. and Right Rev. Horatio Powys, D.D., Lord Bishop of Sodor and Man, who died at Bournemouth on the 31st ult., aged seventy-two, was the third son of Thomas, second Lord Lilford, by Henrietta Maria, his wife, eldest daughter and coheir of Robert Vernon Atherton, Esq., of Atherton Hall, in the county of Lancaster, and was uncle of the present Lord Lilford. He received his education at Harrow, and at St. John's College, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1826. He was Rector of Warrington from 1826 to 1854, in which year he was consecrated Bishop of Sodor and Man. His Lordship married, Feb. 21, 1833, Percy Gore, eldest daughter of William Currie, Esq., of East Horsley Park, Surrey, and leaves issue.

ADMIRAL SIR STEPHEN LUSHINGTON, G.C.B.

Admiral Sir Stephen Lushington, G.C.B., Knight of St. Louis, and of the Redeemer of Greece, Knight Commander of the Legion of Honour, died on the 28th ult., at Oak Lodge, Thornton Heath, Surrey, aged seventy-three. He was the second son of Sir Henry Lushington, second Baronet, of South Hill Park, Berks, by Fanny Maria, his wife, eldest daughter of Matthew Lewis, Esq., Under Secretary at War, and sister and coheir of Matthew Gregory Lewis, Esq., M.P., the romance writer. He entered the Royal Navy in 1816, and served for several years in the Mediterranean. From 1848 to 1852 he was superintendent of the Indian Navy, and he served with distinction in the Crimea, commanding the Naval Brigade on shore at Sebastopol. For some time he was in charge of the South American Station, and in 1862 he was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Greenwich Hospital. Sir Stephen, who had received several foreign decorations, was made a K.C.B. in 1855, and a G.C.B. in 1867. He became Admiral on the Reserved List in 1865. He married, in 1841, Henrietta, daughter of Admiral Sir Henry Prescott, K.C.B., and had two daughters, Henrietta, and Agnes, wife of Henry Kirke, Esq., of The Eaves, Derbyshire.

MR. TAIT.

John Tait, Esq., of Harviestoun, in the county of Clackmannan, and afterwards of Montagu Lodge, Blair Logie, for many years Sheriff of Clackmannan and Kinross, and subsequently of Perthshire, died at his residence, Great Stuart-street, Edinburgh, on the 22nd ult., in his eighty-second year. He was eldest son of Craufurd Tait, Esq., of Harviestoun, by Susan, his wife, daughter of Sir Ilay Campbell, Bart., Lord Succoth, Lord President of the Court of Session, and was consequently brother of the late Colonel Thomas Forsyth Tait, C.B., Commander of Tait's Irregular Cavalry, Bengal, and of the Most Rev. Archibald Campbell Tait, present Archbishop of Canterbury. Mr. Tait was educated at Harrow, Geneva, and Edinburgh, and in 1819 was called to the Scottish Bar. He was for some time Convener of the Sheriffs of Scotland and Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Advocates. He married, April 30, 1824, Mary Amelia, daughter of Francis Sitwell, Esq., of Barmoor Castle, Northumberland, and by her, who died Jan. 29, 1845, leaves one son and two daughters.

The deaths are also announced of—

Charles Long Crafer, late of her Majesty's Treasury, at Ventnor, on the 22nd ult., aged seventy-eight.

Henry Hunt, M.D., F.R.C.P., formerly of Dartmouth, on the 25th ult., aged seventy-five.

Major-General Hamilton Charles Smith, late commanding 80th Regiment, on the 29th ult., at 29, Norfolk-crescent.

John Fowler, Esq., of Parnacott, Devon, J.P. and D.L., at his seat near Holsworthy, on the 30th ult., aged ninety.

The Rev. Wilkinson Affleck Peacock, for twenty-nine years Rector of Ulceby-cum-Fordington, in the county of Lincoln, on the 29th ult., aged sixty-two.

Patrick Hugh O'Connor, Esq., of Dundermott, in the county of Roscommon, J.P. and D.L., High Sheriff in 1860, died recently, aged thirty-nine. He was a descendant of a branch of the great house of O'Connor of Connaught.

John Hackblock, Esq., late of Brockham, Warren, Surrey, J.P., on the 24th ult., at Slaney Park, in the county of Wicklow, aged seventy-five. He was brother of Mr. William Hackblock, sometime M.P. for Reigate, and at one time was a merchant in London.

Lady Elizabeth McClintock, on the 31st ult., in her ninety-seventh year, at Corrig House, Kingstown. Her Ladyship was the third daughter of William Power, first Earl of Clancarty,

and widow of John McClintock, Esq., of Drumcar, in the county of Louth, father (by his first wife) of the present Lord Rathdonnell. Lady Elizabeth McClintock was one of a family of fourteen, amongst whom were the last Countess of Rathdowne, the last Viscountess Castlemaine, and the last Archbishop of Tuam.

Frederick William Irby, Esq., of Boyland Hall, Norfolk, J.P. and D.L., High Sheriff, 1852, on the 1st inst., at 18, Chester-square, aged seventy. He was eldest son of the late Rear-Admiral the Hon. Frederick Paul Irby, O.B., of Bayland Hall, second son of Frederick, second Lord Boston.

Her Majesty Sophia Frederica, Queen of the Netherlands, at the Hague, on the 3rd inst., in her fifty-ninth year. Her Majesty was daughter of William I., King of Wurtemberg, and was married, June 18, 1839, to William III., present King of the Netherlands, by whom she had two sons, William Prince of Orange, born Sept. 4, 1840, and Prince Alexander, born Aug. 25, 1851.

Christopher Neville Bagot, Esq., of Aughrane Castle, in the county of Galway, J.P., on the 23rd ult. Mr. Neville Bagot, youngest son of Thomas Neville Bagot, Esq., of Ard and Ballymoe, in the county of Galway, by Ellen, his wife, daughter of John Fallon, Esq., of Rinninead, went many years ago to Australia, realised a considerable fortune, and on his return purchased the estate of the late Denis Kelly, Esq. He married, Aug. 8, 1875, Alice Emily, daughter of the late Sir William Verner, Bart.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will and codicil, both dated June 27, 1876, of Mr. George Head Head, late of Rickerby, Cumberland, who died on Dec. 12 last, have been proved at the Carlisle district registry by Miles MacInnes, the acting executor, the personal estate being sworn under £160,000. The testator, subject to the payment of a considerable number of legacies and annuities, including £1000 to the British and Foreign Bible Society, devised and bequeathed all his real and personal estate to his relative, the said Miles MacInnes, and he desires him by all lawful means to take and use the name of "Head" and to bear the arms of that family.

The will and codicil, dated Jan. 3, 1873, and Oct. 18, 1876, of Mr. Charles Townsend Hook, late of Snodland, Kent, paper manufacturer, who died on Feb. 11 last, were proved on the 12th ult. by Edward Sedgfield, Isaac Gunton, and Henry Eddow Keene, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £160,000. The testator leaves upon trust for his brother Eustace and his children, £10,000; to his mother, Mrs. Anna Maria Hook, £500 and his freehold house Veles for life; to the General Conference of the New Church, £1000, the interest of which is to be applied in augmentation of the salary of the minister at Snodland; to his executors, £100 each; to Miss Drummond, £100; to his clerk, Henry Brown, £50; to each of his workmen who have not been less than seven years in his employ, £5, to be invested in the Post-Office Savings Bank; and the whole of the rest of his property to his three sisters, Miss Edith Anna Hook, Miss Maude Midsummer Hook, and Miss Agnes Darlington Hook.

The will, with four codicils, dated March 26 and Nov. 13, 1873, July 10, 1876, and Jan. 22 and April 21, 1877, of Mrs. Lucy Sarah Jarman, formerly of Brenley House, near Faversham, and late of No. 63, Montagu-square, who died on the 6th ult., was proved on the 24th ult. by the Rev. John Conant and Frederick Sutton, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £70,000. The testatrix gives very numerous legacies, and the residue of her estate to her nephew, the said Frederick Sutton.

The will, dated Feb. 15, 1877, of Mrs. Eleanor Ann Roach, formerly of Parson's-green, Fulham, and late of Paris, who died on the 7th ult., was proved on the 18th ult. by George Matthews Arnold, the acting executor, the personal estate being sworn under £50,000. Subject to the payment of her just debts, funeral and testamentary expenses, the testatrix gives all her real and personal estate to her daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Harriet Roach.

The will, dated May 24, 1843, of Mrs. Mary Dunkin, formerly of Torrington-square, and late of No. 32, Campden-hill-gardens, Kensington, who died on April 7 last, was proved on the 11th ult. by Mrs. Mary Fenning, the daughter, one of the residuary legatees named therein, the personal estate being sworn under £25,000.

The will, dated Aug. 15, 1870, of Mrs. Maria Browne, late of No. 120, Inverness-terrace, Bayswater, who died on the 1st ult., was proved on the 11th ult. by the Rev. Robert Henry Nisbett Browne and the Rev. Edward Slater Browne, the sons of the deceased, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £25,000.

The will of the late Mr. John Pemberton Heywood, banker, was proved last Saturday in the Liverpool district registry. The personalty was sworn under £1,900,000. After the payment of various bequests the residue, which will amount to about £1,250,000, is left to Mr. Lonsdale, his nephew, who is sole residuary legatee.

Deputy Chief Constable Stretten, of the Cambridgeshire constabulary, has been presented with a silver salver and a purse of 400 sovereigns, raised by public subscription, in recognition of his services during the past quarter of a century.

The Corporation of Wolverhampton is about to remodel the east part of the town, at a cost of £160,000, under the provisions of the Artisans' Dwellings Act.—At a meeting of the Birmingham Town Council held on Tuesday the finance committee reported that arrangements had been made for an advance to the Corporation by the Bank of England of a further loan of £500,000, at 3½ per cent interest, upon the security of the borough rates, for the purchase of lands for the purpose of the improvement scheme about to be effected in the town under the Artisans' Dwelling Act. The report was approved.

A handsome timber pier at Carrick Castle, Lochgoil, Argyleshire, was recently opened in presence of Major-General Sir John Douglas, of Glenfinart; Lady Elizabeth Douglas; the Rev. Mr. Craig, Ardentinny; Mr. John Turner, Mr. James Keydon, Glasgow (factor to Sir John), Mr. James Stewart, and Mr. M'Tavish. When the first steamer from Glasgow arrived at the pier a goodly number, including the company just named, disembarked. Each was provided with a new penny, and, headed by Sir John, passed through the wicket and paid his coin, the pence so collected being placed in an antique casket, and presented to Lady Elizabeth as a remembrance of the event. Luncheon was laid out on tables in the field near the ancient ruin; and, after the usual loyal and patriotic toasts had been disposed of, the health of the lord and lady of the manor was proposed, the gallant officer acknowledging the compliment. The speakers expressed the belief that the construction of the pier would induce gentlemen in Glasgow, Paisley, Greenock, and other towns to take feus along the shore, and that in this way there would soon be another rising watering-place in the Firth of Clyde.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications relating to this department of the Paper should be addressed to the Editor, and have the word "Chess" written on the envelope.

LEANNOR and COPALINO.—The solution of the problem referred to commences with 1. R to R 6th. E B and W L.—Your problems are still under examination. J G F (Ramsgate).—Thanks for the problem. You are still in error as regards No. 1735, as you will discover on reference to the solution below. The answer to 1. Kt to K 4th is 1. B to K sq, after which there is no mate in two more moves. J C W (Honor Oak).—The problem shall have our best attention. We think our readers, however, prefer problems in two or three moves to those requiring a greater number for the solution. H E K (Liverpool).—All excellent, as usual. Please accept our best thanks. J W (Temple).—The games are altogether too weak for this column. Thanks for your compliments.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 1734 received from L. Mabilly, N. Rumbelow, M. W. P., J. P. Taylor, W. N. Payne, and Bishop's Pawn.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 1735 received from H. Beumann, Highway Institute, F. Dennis, L. Mabilly, and Oakley.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 1736 received from H. B. G. W. Stevens, Cant. Triton, T. Edgar, M. Rawlings, H. Stanfield, S. Adam, L. Burnett, A. Mackenzie, G. Wright, G. F. Brooke, E. Emonds, N. Hastings, Only Jones, B. R. Stone, Tally-ho, E. Worsley, J. Lyndford, T. W. H. East Marden, G. H. V. W. S. B. G. Reeves, M. Whiteley, Nicholas, F. G. V. Leonora and Leon, H. Burgher, J. S. W. W. Nelson, Robin Gray, D. Leslie, Black Knight, J. W. Bone, American, Simplicity, R. T. King, Robin Roughton, Mechanic, Paul's House, S. Western, C. G. Elmore, J. de Honsteyn, E. Fran, E. Burkhard, C. E. Hereward, Alice, W. Leeson, R. H. Brooks, W. N. Payne, Fitzroy Chess Club, Woolwich Chess Club, Cheltenham, Dolly, Lillie, J. L. S. R. N. E. D. B. Threlfall, J. F. Spiers, F. Wharton, W. C. D. P. H. R. Hampton, J. L. T. Long Stop, A. Scott, R. Lee, P. S. Shenels, E. P. Vulliamy, Bishop's Pawn, J. G. Finch, and Highway Institute.

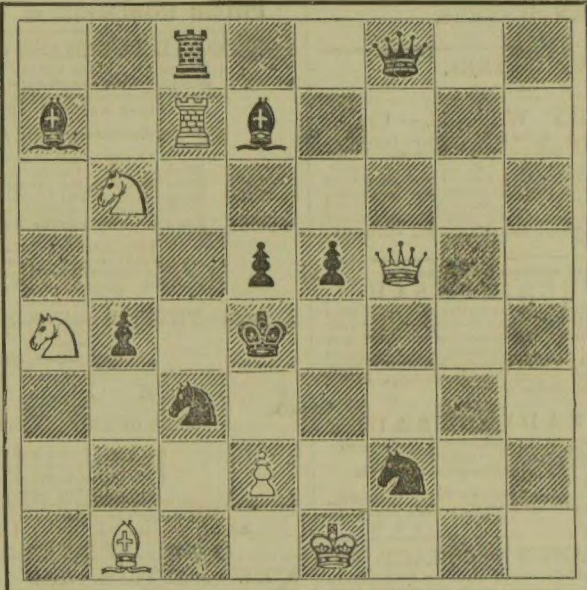
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1735.

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1. Kt to K 6th B to K sq * 3. Kt (from K 6th) takes P. Mate.
2. Kt to K 6th (ch) K to Q 4th
* If 1. K to Q 4th, 2. Kt takes Kt (ch); if 1. P to Q 4th, 2. Q to Kt 5th (ch); if 1. B to Q 6th, 2. Q to R 5th (ch); and if 1. K to Q 4th, 2. Q to Kt 5th (ch), &c.

PROBLEM No. 1735.

By J. NEUMANN.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in two moves.

THE COUNTIES CHESS ASSOCIATION.

A capital Game played at the last meeting of the Counties Chess Association, between Professor WAYNE and Mr. THOROLD. (Philidor's Defence.)

WHITE (Prof. W.) BLACK (Mr. T.)
1. P to K 4th P to K 4th
2. Kt to K B 3rd P to Q 3rd
3. P to Q 4th P to K B 4th
4. Q P takes P B P takes P
5. Kt to Kt 5th P to Q 4th
6. P to K 6th Kt to K B 3rd
The sacrifice of the exchange here is highly characteristic of Mr. Thorold's dashing style. B to 4th is still more effective should White continue with 7. Kt to B 7th; but 7. Kt takes K P is a good reply to that move.
7. Kt to B 7th K to K 2nd
8. Kt takes R B takes P
9. B to K 2nd P to Kt 3rd
10. Castles B to Kt 2nd
11. B to Kt 5th
Much better than 11. Kt takes P. The gain of a Pawn would not compensate White for the disadvantage of an open file upon his castled King.
11. B takes Kt P to B 3rd
12. Kt to B 3rd Q Kt to Q 2nd
13. Q to Q 2nd Q Kt to Q 2nd
14. P to K B 3rd
This assault upon Black's imposing-looking centre is exceedingly well timed.
14. P takes P P takes P
15. Q to Q sq P takes P
16. Kt takes K P would not be so good. Suppose—
16. Kt takes K P Kt takes Kt
If 16. Kt to Q B 4th, White can reply with 17. Q to Kt 5th, &c.
17. B takes Q Kt takes Q
18. B takes R Kt takes R
19. B to Kt 5th Kt takes R P
20. K takes Kt B takes Q Kt P, and Black has won another Pawn.
16. B to Q 4th Q to B 4th (ch)
17. B to K 3rd Q to Q 3rd
18. B to R 3rd K to Kt sq
19. B to B 4th Kt to K 4th
20. Q to Q 4th R to K sq
We think 21. Kt to K B 4th, threatening to win the Queen by 22. Kt to B 6th (ch), is the best move at this point. If, in reply to that move, White plays 22. B takes Kt, Black has a very well conceived. White foresees the gain of the Kt should Black proceed to win the exchange.
21. B to K 5th B to K 5th
22. B to Q 4th B takes R
23. P takes B P to Kt 4th
24. B to K B 5th P to K R 5th
25. R takes Kt R takes R
26. B takes R P takes P
41. B takes P, and Black resigned.

CHESS IN LONDON.

The following amusing affair occurred in the contest for the Trophy of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union, between Mr. KEATS of Bermondsey and Mr. LOUIS COHEN, one of the most promising young players of the day. (Vienna Game.)

WHITE (Mr. C.) BLACK (Mr. K.)
1. P to K 4th P to K 4th
2. Kt to Q B 3rd Kt to K B 3rd
3. P to K B 4th Kt to Q B 3rd
4. Kt to K B 3rd P to Q 4th
5. P takes Q P Kt takes P
6. P takes K P B to B 4th
7. Kt to K 4th B to Kt 3rd
8. P to Q 4th Kt takes P
Anticipating 9. Kt takes Kt, when he could have regained the piece by the check of the Queen at K R 5th.
9. B to Kt 5th Kt takes Kt (ch)
10. Q takes Kt Kt to K 2nd

CHESS INTELLIGENCE.

On Friday last a match was played between the City and the University of Dublin, the former represented by Messrs. Hunt, Pim, Tullish, A. White, Wollett, and Captain Melhado, the latter by Messrs. Cherry, Goodbody, Hoyte, Leahy, A. Mease, and C. Mease. The University team, which was chiefly composed of young players, suffered a total defeat, their more experienced adversaries winning all the games played on the occasion.

DR. SCHLIEMANN'S RESEARCHES AT MYCENÆ.

At the last meeting of the Royal Society of Antiquaries, in Burlington House, on Thursday week, Mr. O. T. Newton, C.B., of the British Museum, read a paper on the objects recently found by Dr. Schliemann at Mycenæ. Lord Carnarvon was in the chair. Mr. Newton explained that since his return from Mycenæ he had been engaged investigating the very remarkable discoveries made by Dr. Schliemann, and he proposed that evening to give them the result of his work. He stated that there was in the British Museum a small collection of ancient pottery which had been presented by Professor Ruskin. It was from Ialysus, in the island of Rhodes, and there was not only a resemblance in the form of articles found at Ialysus and Mycenæ, but there were also points of identity in the style of the ornament. One of the most remarkable similarities was connected with the octopus, or cuttle-fish; representations of that form of marine life were common among the gold objects at Mycenæ. In the fictile vases from Ialysus there was a peculiar ornament, to which Mr. Newton had at first paid little or no attention, but since his late return from Greece it had attracted his observation, and, to assist his inquiries into what was more strictly a branch of natural history, he had called into his counsels Professor Owen. It was a sort of "inquest" on this animal, and the verdict of that very high authority on such matters was "octopus." It must be understood that it was the octopus in a conventional form. A representation of it, from one of the Ialysus vases, is here given to illustrate this very curious discovery, which is not only important in connection with archaeology, but also in relation to the history of ornamental art. One of the peculiarities of the designs found at Mycenæ and Ialysus is that of scrollwork, which wanders in a wild and "lawless" manner over the field of the design. This the lecturer considered to be a development derived from the tentacles of the octopus. The probable truth of this suggestion will be evident from the illustration which we give below.



Other points of analogy between Mycenæ and Ialysus were noticed. One was the almost total absence of glass in both places, a few objects of a semi-transparent kind only having been found. Mr. Newton pointed out that the fragments of pottery found in the so-called Treasuries at Mycenæ were different from those found in the graves of the Acropolis, and the conclusion as to date would be only approximate; but the more geometric designs of the Treasuries would be after the supposed date of the Trojan War; while the objects found in the Acropolis, with its octopus scroll patterns and freer designs, were no doubt as early, if not earlier, than the story of the "Iliad." The small Juno or Hera idols, of which Dr. Schliemann found so many at Mycenæ, are also found at Ialysus. Mr. Newton afterwards referred to the curious stone circle which stood over the graves which he considered to have been the Agora or Forum of Mycenæ. We may be justified in calling attention to the fact that this explanation was first suggested in the pages of the *Illustrated London News*, and that it will be found in the Number for March 24 of this year, in the description of the spot, given by our Special Artist, Mr. W. Simpson, where he refers to the passage from the Iliad in the description of the Shield of Achilles, showing how a court is held and the elders sit upon polished stones "in a sacred circle." This passage Mr. Newton quoted, and also referred to Mr. Paley's letter to the *Times*, in which he pointed out a passage in Euripides which mentions "the Circle of the Agora" in the Acropolis of Mycenæ. Having the high authority of Mr. Newton that this is the most probable explanation of this unique monument, a passage from Sophocles may be pointed out bearing upon it, one which has puzzled Greek scholars. The passage describes Artemis, "who sits on the circular throne of the Agora." This now presents no difficulty, and shows the light which Dr. Schliemann's explorations are throwing on classic literature.

At the end of Mr. Newton's paper there was a discussion, in which Dr. Schliemann, Mr. Watkiss Lloyd, Mr. William Simpson, and Mr. Gardner took part, and Lord Carnarvon summed up.

It will be observed that Mr. Newton has been lecturing at the Royal Institution upon the same subject this week.

A resolution in favour of disestablishment was carried by 460 to 78 votes, at the meeting of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, on Thursday week.

The several orders of the Bedfordshire local authority, made in pursuance of the cattle plague order of 1877, prohibiting or restricting the movement of cattle into the county of Bedford have been revoked.

Sir Walter Wyndham Burrell, M.P., was elected Right Worshipful Grand Master of the Order of Freemasons for the County of Sussex at a large and influential meeting assembled at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton, on Saturday afternoon. The installation ceremony was followed by a dinner.

The committee of the Peace Society have unanimously adopted a resolution of thanks to Mr. Henry Richard, M.P., for his "noble and courageous protest" on behalf of peace whilst presiding as chairman at the recent annual meeting of the Congregational Union of England and Wales.

The final meeting of the general committee of the Thunderer Relief Fund was held on Thursday week at the Dockyard, Portsmouth; Admiral Elliott, the Commander-in-Chief, presided. The audited accounts showed that £10,560 5s. 10d. had been received from subscriptions, with £185 1s. 7d. interest upon deposits in the National Provincial Bank. The sum of £2992 7s. 9d. had been expended in relief.

Notice has been received from the Post Office of India (under which the British Postal Agency at Zanzibar is conducted) that the postage of letters, &c., for Zanzibar must be fully prepaid in future, or they cannot be forwarded to their destination. The following rates of postage must therefore be prepaid upon correspondence for Zanzibar:—Via Brindisi—Letters, 8d. per half oz.; newspapers, 2d. per 4 oz.; books and patterns, 3d. per 2 oz. Via Southampton, or any other route—Letters, 6d. per half oz.; newspapers, 1d. per 4 oz.; books and patterns, 2d. per 2 oz.

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